





KITCHEN & HOME



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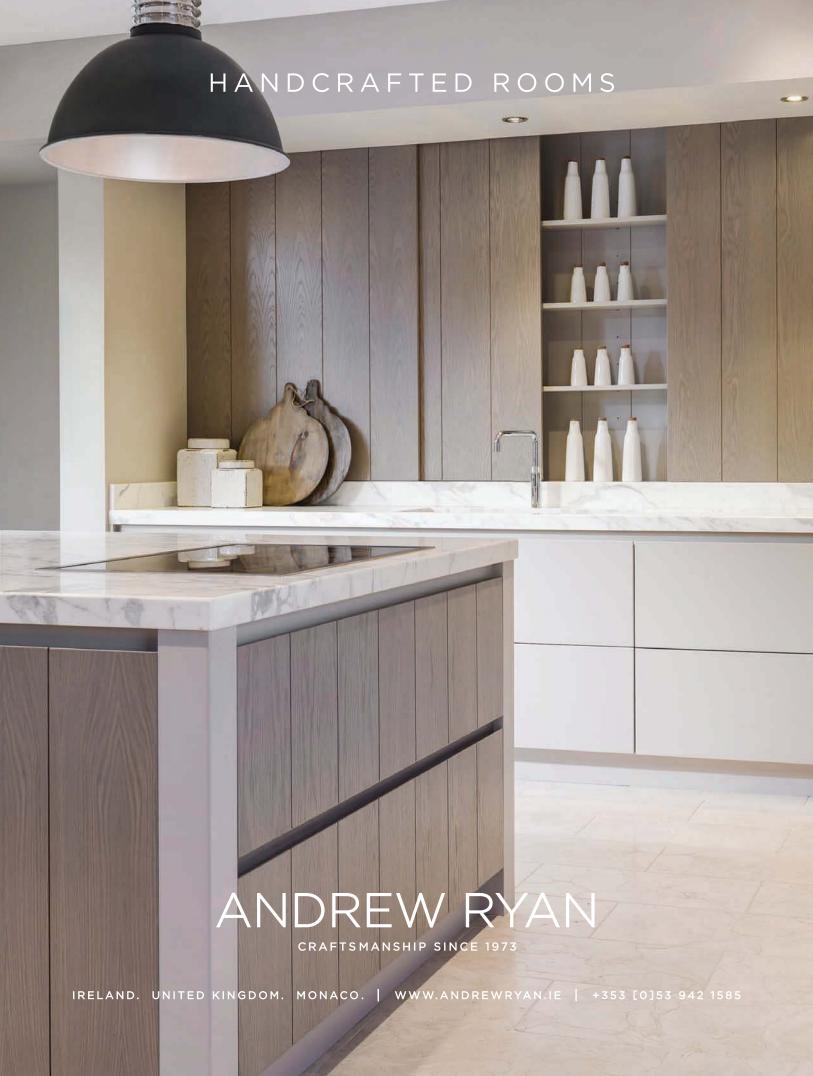
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## editor's letter



e're excited to bring you our February/March issue, packed with amazing kitchen ideas & all things interiors! While we're still feeling the love for grey schemes in all their cool & sophisticated tones, here at Décor HQ we've been relishing the number of kitchen designs coming through in alternative palettes. Crisp whites, bleached woods, antiqued painted finishes and rich accent colours, rich accent colours, along with the enduring appeal of soft grey of course, means our latest issue is brimming with a refreshingly diverse selection of styles, guaranteed to give you kitchen envy!

We're noticing the days starting to lengthen and spring doesn't seem so far in the distance so, over the past few weeks we've been turning our thoughts to Spring Summer '15 collections and taking a sneak peak of what's in store from the leading design houses. At Décor, we're self-confessed kitchen aficionados, that's a given but we're also crazy about interiors & the importance of creating our homes to reflect how we live, love and socialize. It's amazing the effect a fabulous new piece of furniture or accessory can have on your living space. Stick by the words of textile designer, poet and novelist William Morris and you won't go far wrong, 'Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful.' Combining beauty and functionality, we bring you inspiration on the latest key looks and designs. Whether you're embarking on a renovation project, thinking of updating your kitchen or simply looking for ideas on revamping your living space, check out what we have in store!

Judith Robinson-Lyttle, Editor

Ref article Worth the Wait, in issue 5. We wish to apologise to the Principle Architect, Georgina Hutton - Orr of Georgina Hutton & Associates Ltd. She was solely responsible for the design of all cabinetry within this project to include the kitchen. With the kitchen company responsible for its manufacture only.

This misrepresentation was due to an error in communication between the kitchen company and publishing company.



### decor-living.com

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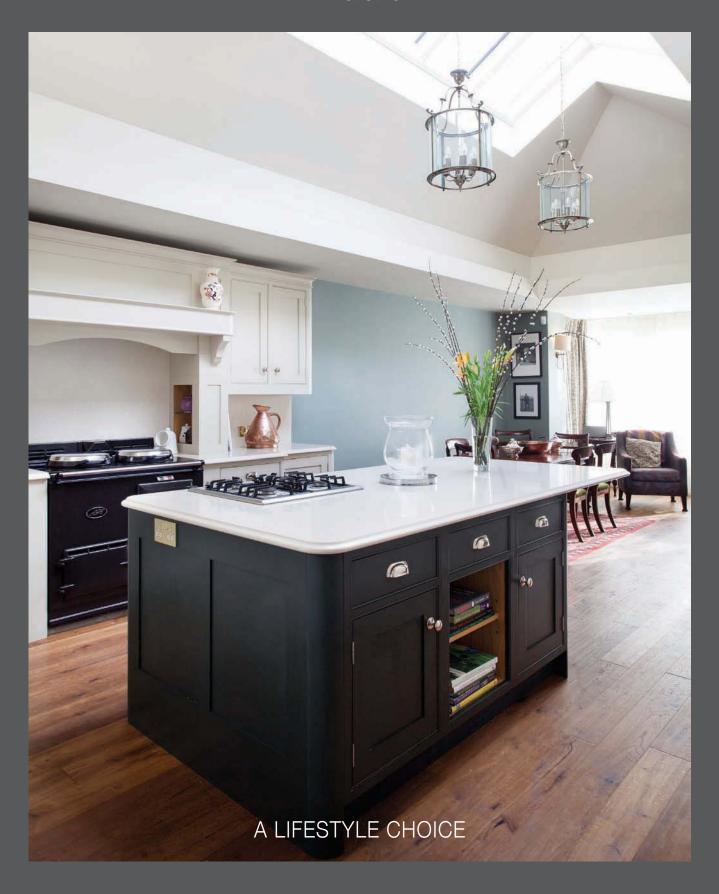
Jarrel Dillon





## interior360

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## **DÉCOR NEWS**

#### THE LATEST LAUNCHES, DESIGN INSPIRATION AND ACCESSORIES - EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW





### PERFECT PITCHER

One of the in colours for 2015, this copper effect metal jug will look great on a farmhouse table filled with flowers. £14/€19 lauraashley.com



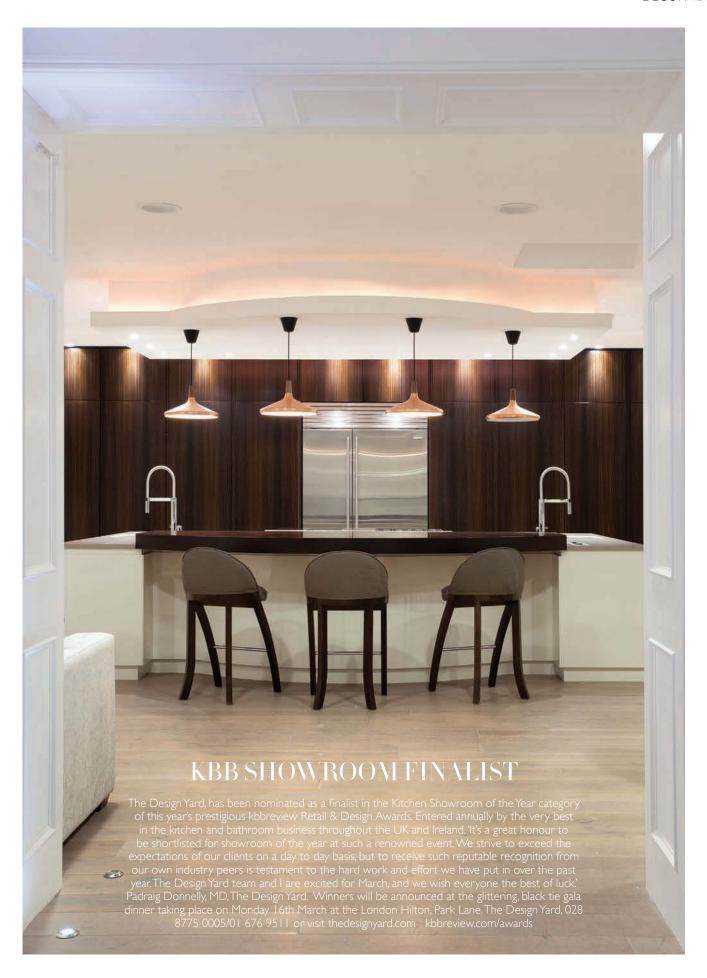
### TABLETOP ESSENTIAL

We love these shapely oil and vinegar bottles from Sagaform at Design 55 Interiors. Made from glass, they feature oak stoppers, which give an effective contrast and a feeling of premium quality. £22/€30 design55online.co.uk

### MINI ME

La Cornue stoves, hand built to order today just as they were in 1908, are not exactly known for their small proportions. Now also catering for smaller kitchen, this legendary French artisan manufracturer has launched the CornuChef Grand Maman 90. At just 90cm wide, it includes all the hallmark features including the famous vaulted oven and a fully equipped cooktop, all in a downsized compact version, Genuis! Shown in Summer Blue enamel with polished chrome and stainless steel trim, From £9,500/€12,800 lacornue.com







The Viento VIE550WH ceiling hood from Caple is operated with a remote control and four speed levels to achieve different levels of extraction to suit your cooking needs. The handy auto timer operates so it switches

off 10 minutes after cooking has ended for optimum extraction. From £1,549/€2,078 caple.co.uk



### DOUBLE WHAMMY FOR GREENHILL HANDMADE KITCHENS AT THE IKT AWARDS

Recognizing design excellence throughout the kitchen industry in Ireland, the IKT (Irish Kitchen Trade) Awards shortlisted a worthy list of potential winners. Scooping two awards - one for Showroom of the Year and the other for head designer Peter Leonard for Best Classic Project up to 25k - the team at Greenhill Handmade Kitchens came away with uplifting comments from the judging panel, headed up by architect Des Ewing. Commenting on Peter Leonard's winning kitchen design, Des Ewing commented: 'This designer looked at the bigger picture and transformed the kitchen area with large windows to give great views from the hub of the house to the lake. The kitchen, which looks much more expensive than its modest budget, has been created through clever design. The proportion of the doors and units are consistent with good use of muted colours but we love the Farrow & Ball Downpipe painted on the island. The designer created opportunities and used them to great effect.' 028 8856 8631 greenhillkitchens.co.uk



### penchant for pendants

The Rise & Fall School light is the first adjustable pendant from Davey Lighting and the latest addition to the classic School collection. Featuring a counterweight and pulley system, it's ideal for dual-purpose living spaces where you can alternate task and mood lighting. Featuring a spun metal shade in either polished or weathered copper, green or putty grey, it comes with a choice of polished copper or white interior. From £189/€254-£479/€643 davey-lighting.co.uk



### RETRO NOSTALGIA

If you're into vintage style and shabby chic, you're going to love this 1950s retro style toaster from Smeg. Featuring two extra wide slots, it's super practical and super cool. £99/€126 smeguk.com







THOMPSON CLARKE

INTERIORS

### STATEMENT SPLASHBACK

Create a statement splashback with the Relevo Concreto tile design from the Tileworks collection from Original Style. These tiles, although porcelain have a textured stone effect to achieve the look of mosaics. £59/€80 per sqm originalstyle.com







### **BOWLED OVER**

These gorgeous nkuku handpainted bird bowls are not only beautiful but versatile too. Fill them with snacks and nibbles, little bits and bobs or just use them to add a touch of charm on a display shelf in your kitchen. Available in four colourways. £6/€8 each mollieandfred.co.uk

### Techy Tap

Based on the popular PuraVida design for bathrooms, Hansgrohe has come up with a digital tap for the kitchen. The new electronic PuraVida kitchen mixer sports an exceptional design that offers convenient, digital operation. A purist visual style in a choice of brushed stainless steel or polished chrome, water flow and temperature is selected by a simple clicking action. One click for cold, two clicks for warm and three for hot. £1,782/€2,390 hansgrohe.co.uk







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Location: Stradbally, Co Waterford
Bespoke solid poplar kitchen – handpainted in Farrow
& Ball White Tie – by Garrett Dillon Crafted Kitchens
& Furniture with work surfaces in Silestone Tigris Sand
with New York edge

Garrett Dillon Crafted Kitchens & Furniture, Unit 1-2, Westgate Business Park, Dungarvan, Co Waterford 058 23004 garrettdillon.ie



Above middle: The double larder has been designed with custom shelving and deep drawers for easy access Above right: Cut glass knobs are a gorgeous alternative to chrome handles, adding a touch of glamour to the classic scheme Opposite: The island with Belfast sink and French style taps is a beautiful centerpiece with glassfronted wine rack on one side and open shelving on the other

his new build has been carefully planned to create an unusual layout with traditional two-storey design at the front and barn conversionstyle one-storey wing at the rear. 'We love barn conversions so tried to create this look with our build. It has a stone façade and with the vaulted ceilings and semi open plan layout, it has a similar feel. We were tempted to go for a completely open plan layout at the back but decided to add double doors leading from the kitchen to the living room. It means we have the option of dividing the rooms if we wish,' says Sharon.

Sharon visited a selection of showrooms and bought countless magazines for inspiration but it wasn't until they met Garrett Dillon, owner of Garrett Dillon Crafted Kitchens & Furniture that they knew they were in the right place. 'Garrett was great to deal with and had a lot of clever ideas. Our vaulted ceilings meant we had to have custom made cabinetry because standard height would've looked lost. Garrett designs and manufacturers everything totally bespoke so this gave us great versatility with the design.'

Making an early site visit gave Garrett the opportunity to consider the proportions of the room to create initial drawings as a foundation of the design. Working with Sharon and Dermot, he incorporated the couple's priorities while adding his own unique design suggestions, resulting in a one-off scheme to suit the couple's specific needs. 'We loved Garrett's suggestions and were also inspired by the kitchen displays in his showroom. This is where I got the idea for the cut glass handles and I even used the same wall colour as he has in an area of his studio - Persian Green by Colortrend, such a lovely warm colour that works so well with the Farrow & Ball White Tie cabinetry.'

Sharon did initially consider choosing a different colour for the cabinetry and also thought of adding contrast to the island with an alternative shade. 'I mulled various colours over in my mind but finally decided to keep it neutral. Trends come and go and I wanted our kitchen to be a timeless scheme that I wouldn't tire of. I love our kitchen – there is no chance of me tiring of this!'





WE LOVE BARN CONVERSIONS SO TRIED TO CREATE THIS LOOK WITH OUR BUILD. IT HAS A STONE FAÇADE AND WITH THE VAULTED CEILINGS AND SEMI OPEN PLAN LAYOUT, IT HAS A SIMILAR FEEL



Were any structural amendments needed to accommodate the kitchen? No this is a new build project so I had a blank canvas to work on. It was a matter of combining Sharon and Dermot's priorities and carefully considering the existing space to make it work, both practically and aesthetically and making sure everything was in proportion to achieve a successful design and layout

#### Did your clients know what style of kitchen they wanted?

They had ideas on styles and Sharon had taken inspiration from magazines to build up a general theme of what she wanted. We then worked together to see how this could be incorporated into the footprint of the room. Although the couple had their own ideas, they were also happy to keep an open mind and take my advice on what would work best in their space. They also took inspiration from some designs on display in my studio, which I could then translate to suit their setting

What is the most standout element in the room? The mantel is one of the most striking design features. The glazed cabinet with contoured edges also works very well in the space and finishes the larder wall to soften the edges. A double door leading from the kitchen to the living room restricted our wall space but it ended up working to our advantage. Less wall cabinetry gives the room a relaxed and elegant look

Garrett Dillon, Garrett Dillon Crafted Kitchens & Furniture



Appliances: Rangemaster Kitchener I I 0cm electric ceramic range cooker in cream. Electrolux integrated larder fridge with larder freezer in the utility room. Bosch integrated dishwasher and built-in extraction system concealed in the custom design mantel. Appliances sourced from Kelly & Dollard Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke solid poplar kitchen - handpainted in Farrow & Ball White Tie - by Garrett Dillon Crafted Kitchens & Furniture. Work surfaces in Silestone Tigris Sand with New York edge. Belfast sink from Villeroy & boch fitted with oak plinth detail, designed by Garrett Dillon to highlight and frame this as a feature in the island. Tre Mercati French classic traditional Cross Head bridge mixer tap in pewter. Flooring is semi solid French Ozark oak with an oiled finish. Wall colour is Colortrend Persian Green





# CANAVAN INTERIORS

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# ACUT ABOVE

The owners of this recently renovated seaside property have reconfigured the interior to achieve an open plan layout with a handcrafted custom designed kitchen as its defining feature

Photography Barry Murphy

hen this house in a sought-after location came onto the open market, the owners knew they just had to seize this rare opportunity. It didn't cost them a thought that the interior was in need of updating; in fact, this was a huge draw as it gave them the opportunity to put their unique stamp on the place with a design-conscious interior scheme, starting with a custom kitchen handcrafted to their individual specification.

'We have three young children and loved the idea of an easy-going space with a relaxed vibe where we could all enjoy downtime as a family. The existing layout was very compartmentalized with a series of small rooms, so we knew we'd like to give the place a makeover but needed some help from the experts. We knew the kitchen would be the core of our interior so this is the first room we considered.' Aware of the excellent reputation of Andrew Ryan kitchens, the couple visited their Gorey, Co. Wexford showroom where they admired examples from their design portfolio and brainstormed with their team of designers.

'We had consultations as well as site visits, where lots of ideas were discussed to give us a really informed picture of our options. Because of the bespoke nature of the Andrew Ryan designs, anything was possible so it was a matter of working with our existing space.' The Andrew Ryan team also advised on this aspect, taking all elements of the interior into consideration and suggesting the necessary structural amendments to optimise the layout and kitchen footprint. Knocking dividing walls, the interior has been remodeled to create an open plan layout with the kitchen, dining and living areas leading into one another.

With a classic style in mind for their kitchen cabinetry, the owners were unsure of paint finishes and finer details, such as work surfaces, handles and finishing touches. 'Our designers suggested a French influence for the cabinetry - a concept we loved yet would never have considered without their input. It's so unique with its aged finishes, four different styles of bronze handles and other unique details, such as the dado rail along the centre of the butler's pantry. This is one of the many things I love about our kitchen; it's so classic and elegant yet has been designed with a fresh, contemporary feel. The dado rail design on the butler's pantry is actually a pullout shelf for our laptops and iPads. The facade is so timeless and traditional but the internals have been adapted with modern living in mind. It's everything and more than I'd hoped for. We wanted something totally different in a league of its own and that's exactly what Andrew Ryan has achieved.'









OUR DESIGNERS SUGGESTED A FRENCH INFLUENCE FOR THE CABINETRY – A CONCEPT WE LOVED YET WOULD NEVER HAVE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THEIR INPUT

# KITCHEN PROFILE

Location: Co Wexford Bespoke solid beech handcrafted cabinetry – with a specialist handpainted antiqued finish, featuring butt hinges, dovetail joinery and hand forged bronze hardware – by Andrew Ryan Andrew Ryan Ireland – UK – Monaco Head Office Ireland, Clonattin Lower, Gorey, Co Wexford Monaco Showroom, I Rue Des Roses, Monte Carlo, 98000 Monaco 053 9421585 andrewryan.ie





#### **Appliances**

Gaggenau appliances - Variocool larder fridge with stainless steel interior with larder freezer in the utility room. Vario integrated dishwasher with Zeolite technology. Aga range cooker and Britannia extraction system, supplemented with Gaggenau Domino gas hob – ideal during the summer months when the Aga may be turned off

#### Fixtures & Fittings

Bespoke solid beech handcrafted cabinetry – with a a specialist handpainted antiqued finish, featuring butt hinges, dovetail joinery and custom bronze hardware - by Andrew Ryan. Basaltina stone work surfaces and upstands with 80mm solid aged oak surface on island. Perrin & Rowe tap with handrinse, Kohler cast iron sink, Specified aged oak, reclaimed effect engineered board, ideal for underfloor heating, sourced by Andrew Ryan. A section of floor in sandstone has been laid between the Aga and island as a practical surface to deal with cooking spills. Lighting and bar stools also sourced by Andrew Ryan. Horizontal T&G panelled splashback

Right: The freestanding island, aged work surface and finest of details, down to the tap design and handmade bronze handles give this scheme a unique finish Below: Four styles of handles have been specified for the cabinetry, enhancing the bespoke feel and adding personality. Each handle ages differently, depending on its level of usage, creating a very individual look to each cabinet





Aiden Ryan, Director, Andrew Ryan

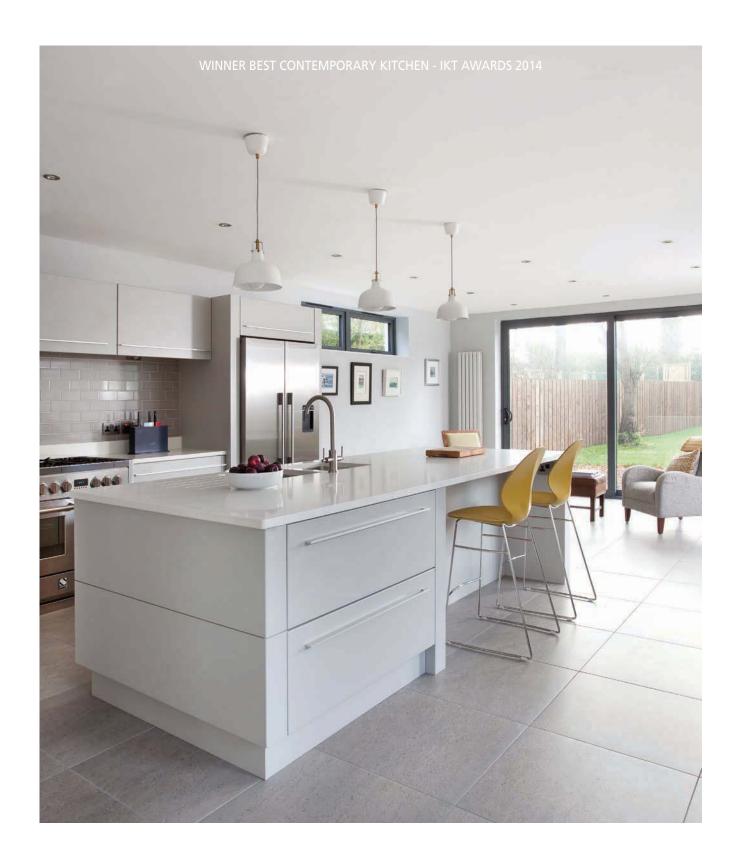


### Did the owners have a specific style in mind for their new kitchen?

They knew they wanted a painted finish and wanted to invest in a design that would get even better with age. They were familiar with our kitchen portfolio and knew of our reputation so they were keen to discover what design concepts we would come up with. They knew they didn't want a grey finish and were striving for something very different and truly bespoke

Was the team at Andrew Ryan influential in determining the new structural layout? Our clients consulted with us at the very early renovation stages of their property, which gave us the opportunity to suggest structural changes to maximise the potential of their kitchen design and living space. We were on site before the renovations commenced so we suggested a reconfiguration of rooms to create an open plan layout, connecting the kitchen with dining and living area in a naturally flowing layout. This allowed the kitchen to shine as the central focus of family life

Please outline the most notable design features? Every aspect of this design is bespoke, from the dovetail joinery and decorative mouldings to the aged oak top on the island, solid internals, handles and specialist handpainted finish, which has been meticulously applied to give an antiqued finish. The island with open pot board is a striking focal point, with 800mm chunky top achieving a solid, substantial finish without feeling imposing, due to its freestanding design



# BEECHVIEW



# GREENHILL

Handmade Kitchens



Irish kitchen showroom of the year 2014/2015
Irish designer of the year for kitchen under £25K 2014/2015





Location: Belfast Bespoke Schüller C3 handleless system – matt lacquered doors in Stone Grey with Dark Chestnut woodgrain features - from Interior 360, with feature classic Aga range cooker

Interior 360, Locksley Business Park 39 Montgomery Road, Belfast 028 9070 9360 interior360.com





hen Julia and Richard bought their spacious family home in Belfast, although displaying some dated décor, its potential was clear. 'There was nothing actually wrong with the house, it was just a bit dated and we knew straight away the changes we'd like to make. We relished the idea of putting our own stamp on it so got to work on maximizing the layout to suit how we would live in the space,' says Julia.

The couple renovated in record time, moving in within just a couple of months. A crucial and transformative part of the renovation involved knocking down the dividing wall between the kitchen and adjacent living room to create an open plan multifunctional family area. 'Because the kitchen was quite dated, we could justify replacing it. I love open plan layouts where you can cook, eat and relax all in the one room. They're perfect for entertaining too!'

Having been recommended Interior 360 by several contacts, the couple visited the showroom, where they had an initial consultation. 'We were very impressed with the showroom and the design team, who suggested lots of innovative ideas as well as considering the room as a whole.' Julia and Richard wanted to create a modern, clean-cut look in the kitchen, contrasting with classic pieces in the living room, teamed with a vibrant collection of art, which enhances the space and its individuality. Appreciating the juxtaposition of traditional and contemporary, Julia and Richard have retained their inherited Aga range cooker, which is a striking contrast to the streamlined cabinetry. 'Our designer worked around the position of the Aga and came up with a layout we loved.'

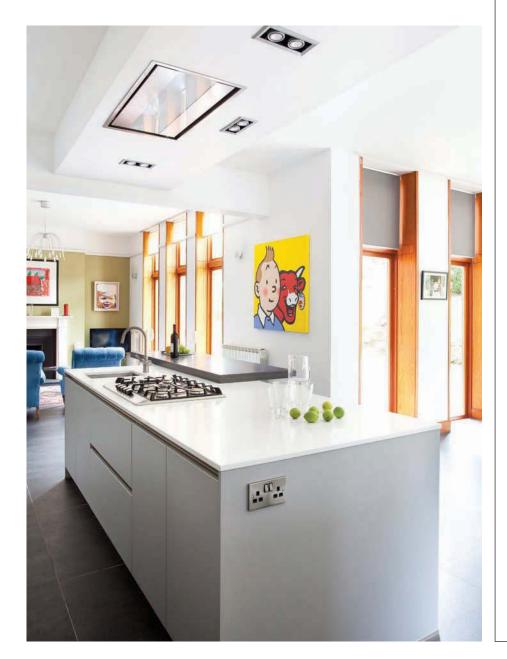
With the living area and kitchen originally two rooms, the kitchen doorway was where the fridge freezer is housed. Knocking through the supporting wall and closing up this doorway provided more wall space to continue the kitchen cabinetry and create the linear look they desired. A custom designed bulkhead has been fitted into the ceiling above the island, which houses the recessed extraction system and conceals the steel beams and supporting nibs that were required to achieve the new layout.

Adding contrast to the Stone Grey cabinets, the couple took their designer's advice in choosing a dark Chestnut wood-grain finish for the breakfast bar and display shelving above the range cooker. Although linear in design, the layout has plenty of storage built into the cupboards, with extra wide pot drawer units and pullout larders with wire shelving. The island, while providing bar style seating, is also the central workstation where food is prepared, snacks are enjoyed and homework is completed.

Above left: With its open plan layout central island and connection between spaces, this is the perfect party kitchen Above Right: The couple decided to keep the Aga they inherited with the property. Teamed with stainless steel appliances and cool grey cabinetry, this is a winning combination Right: Cool grey sets the scene with just the right amount of wood-grain adding texture and tone



# INTERIOR 360 DID A FANTASTIC JOB ON OUR PROJECT. THEY REALLY UNDERSTOOD WHAT WE WANTED TO ACHIEVE AND MADE IT HAPPEN, WITH AMAZING ATTENTION TO DETAIL



Did Julia and Richard have a specific look in mind for their new kitchen by the time they visited the showroom? They knew they wanted a contemporary aesthetic and were drawn to a linear look in a cool, neutral colourway. Other aspects such as layout, storage, functionality and finishing touches were discussed during the consultation, which gave the opportunity to brainstorm and find out more about Julia and Richard's priorities and personal style

What structural amendments were made to accommodate the new kitchen? The kitchen and living area were originally two separate rooms so the dividing wall was demolished to achieve the desired open plan layout. A bulkhead was designed to house a recessed extraction system above the island, which also conceals the supporting nibs. Closing up the original doorway into the kitchen freed up extra wall space to house the American style fridge freezer, giving Julia and Richard a run of cabinetry and storage

Were any changes made to the original design? Other than a few minor tweaks, there were no significant changes made as the original design suited our clients both in terms of style and functionality. One amendment was in the addition of a dark wood-grain finish by way of contrast to the cool grey cabinetry. This brings a level of contrast and depth to the scheme, while maintaining a sharp and contemporary look

Philip Millar, Director, Inteiror 360



Appliances: Bosch appliances – TCC78K751B built-in coffee centre, PCR915B91E 5-burner gas hob with wok style central burner; SMS58T02GB integrated dishwasher and KAD62V40GB American style fridge freezer. Falmec Nuvola recessed extraction system. Franke sink and tap, including Minerva 3 in 1 hot tap. Aga range cooker – Julia and Richard inherited the traditional black range cooker and decided to keep it as a contrast to their contemporary handleless kitchen Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke Schüller C3 handleless system – matt lacquered doors in Stone Grey with Dark Chestnut woodgrain features - from Interior 360. Sinquastone work surfaces in Polar White, also from Interior 360. The design team at Interior 360 took the entire room scheme into consideration, advising on and sourcing the floor tiles.



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O'Donovan Rossa Street, Thurles, Co. Tipperary 353 504 90515 info@savvykitchens.ie





Location: Thurles, Co Tipperary Slipped Shaker ash in-frame kitchen from the bespoke collection from Savvy Kitchens, painted in Farrow & Barrow Pavilion Gray, with Solid oak island worktop and Star Galaxy granite around range cooker with upstands

Savvy Kitchens, O'Donovan Rossa St, Thurles, Co Tipperary 0504 90515 savvykitchens.ie



lga and Tommy's farmhouse was built over 100 years ago by Tommy's grandfather so, although the couple wanted to put their own identity on the interior, it was equally important that they retain the character of this beautiful old house that has been passed down over the generations.

We inherited the house from my in-laws and decided to live here for about four years before starting any renovations; it was generally in really good condition so there was no rush to start any major work," explains Olga. The 30-year old kitchen they inherited, although dark and dated was workable so the couple lived with it while they considered their future plans. It was after the birth of Olga and Tommy's first child that they decided it was time to extend and create a more family friendly space for a new kitchen with open layout leading to a dining area. 'We extended past the original back wall of the house to create a dining area. I wanted an island in the kitchen as well as dining space and the original kitchen just wouldn't have been large enough to accommodate both. As well as adding the dining area, we added a utility room and downstairs loo and reinstated traditional style sash windows throughout the house."

Tommy lived in the house while the work was in progress but Olga and their son, Max moved out for a couple of weeks. 'We had the original pitch pine floorboards sanded so you can imagine the dust as well as the disruption of having the windows replaced. It worked well because it gave me time to research my favourite part of the renovation - our new kitchen!'

Buying countless magazines and asking advice, Olga put a lot of thought into the kitchen design. 'I did my research and kept cuttings of designs I liked in a scrapbook. We shopped around locally and were instantly impressed by designer Andy Spillane of local company, Savvy Kitchens. His showroom is fabulous and he was so helpful from the very first consultation.'

Olga knew she'd come to the right place when she met Andy. 'I had both Andy and my husband tormented because, at this stage, I was unsure of exactly what I wanted but Andy was so helpful and steered us in the right direction. He guided us through the process, showing us various kitchens in situ as well as showroom displays and samples. He combined elements from various designs to create a unique and bespoke kitchen that we couldn't be happier with. As well as really listening to our preferences and priorities, Andy also took the entire house into consideration and ensured that our new kitchen would totally suit the style of the rest of the interior. Our new kitchen has been tailor made to suit both our house and our needs.

Above: The opening between the kitchen and dining area was the original back wall of the house. Adding this extra room creates a fabulous open plan space for Olga and her growing family. The salvaged wooden flooring in the dining area blends seamlessly with the original pitch pine kitchen floor, achieving continuity in the room Opposite: The original pine ceiling of the kitchen has been painted to brighten the room and tie in with the new colour scheme



# WE HAD THE ORIGINAL PITCH PINE FLOORBOARDS SANDED SO YOU CAN IMAGINE THE DUST AS WELL AS THE DISRUPTION OF HAVING THE WINDOWS REPLACED



What were your clients' do's and don'ts? Olga had spent time researching styles she liked but when I met her for an initial consultation, she was overwhelmed by the options. She knew she wanted a very practical working kitchen that would withstand the daily wear and tear of busy family life but also high on the priority list was a beautiful timeless scheme that would enhance the character of the farmhouse

Did Olga always know she wanted a painted kitchen? Yes, the kitchen they inherited was very dark so one of her priorities was to get as much light into the room as possible. This painted finish in Farrow & Ball Pavilion Gray was a great option as it provides warmth and tone and really suits the period of the house. The oak island top and drawers gives great contrast and adds textured and interest to the scheme

What are the most notable features of the design? The large island is a striking piece of furniture that takes centre stage in the room. Before adding the extension to accommodate the dining area, Olga's dining furniture stood in the centre of the kitchen but this island is much more fitting. With enough room for an island and dining area, the new layout is a great family space. The little drawers on the island are an unusual feature that contrasts with the painted finish

Andy Spillane, Director Savvy Kitchens



Appliances: Siemens appliances – SN65MO31GB integrated dishwasher, Kl38VA50GB integrated fridge freezer. Bosch HBN331SOB oven. Olga and Tommy also still have the original 100 year old range cooker. Sink, 400x400, Teka. Ludlow tap, Abode Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke Shaker in-frame kitchen in ash, painted in Farrow & Ball Pavilion Gray from Savvy Kitchens. Solid oak island worktop and Star Galaxy granite around range cooker with upstands also from Savvy Kitchens. The kitchen flooring is original with flooring in the dining area, reclaimed from an old church in England. Walls painted in Historic Luxury Matt in Pale Brown, Colortrend. Dining chairs and rug from Abbey Furniture. Antique dining table has been passed down through the generations. Pendant lights from Duggan Lighting. Lamp and accessories from Nicholas Mosse Pottery.



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For their contemporary new build, Pat and John have gone for a sleek kitchen that's stunning in its simplicity

Photography Rory Corrigan





Location: Belfast

Häcker Systemaat cabinetry with Magnolia structured lacquer door and iroko wood features from Canavan Interiors, designed in association with Neil Darby Architects

Canavan Interiors, 62 Ballynafeagh Road, Ardboe, Dungannon, Co Tyrone 028 8673 6439 canavaninteriors.co.uk



nlisting the skills of architect Neil Darby, Pat and John had a great vision for their new home. 'We wanted a fresh contemporary style yet something quite pared back and simple; in a nutshell we wanted modern yet timeless. This project was to be our forever home so we couldn't afford it to date in years to come. Our architect was fantastic, coming up with a design that we instantly warmed to.' The key feature of the design is the spacious open plan kitchen/living area with floor to ceiling glazing maximizing the views of the landscaped garden, inviting lots of light and solar gain.

'After having a separate kitchen in our last house, I really wanted a contemporary open plan space. It's such a practical and sociable layout - perfect for everyday and entertaining. Once you live in an open plan environment, you just wouldn't want to go back. We have grown-up children and grandchildren so this layout works really well when everyone's together, especially the children, as you can keep an eye on everything that's going on while cooking or serving drinks."

When it came to choosing a kitchen designer, the couple were guided by their architect. 'We were so impressed by Neil's design for the house so, when he recommended kitchen designer, Jason Canavan of Canavan Interiors, we were confident we could trust his

judgment. As soon as we met Jason and saw examples of his designs in the showroom, we knew we were in the right place. Neil and Jason worked so well together, with Jason's kitchen design perfectly complementing the architecture of the house. Jason also implemented a bespoke lighting scheme to ensure that the room takes on another dimension in the evening. 'Lighting is something I would have forgotten about. Thankfully our kitchen designer thought of every last detail and created a subtle and very effective lighting scheme. With mood lighting built into the iroko box on the island, in the plinths and recessed above the hob, the room takes on a new ambience in the evenings.'

On a functional level, Jason advised the couple on appliances. 'There's such a vast choice but Jason was a great help. He suggested the extra wide induction hob, which I'm delighted with. The cooking zones are arranged in a horizontal line rather than a block of four. I suffer from back pain so this is great as it saves me having to lift heavy pans to the back of the hob.'

Balancing exceptionally strong visuals with precise functionality, this scheme sits seamlessly in its contemporary surroundings. The introduction of iroko wood to the framing and island box acknowledge the iroko window frames and sliding doors to achieve a harmonious scheme that's striking in its simplicity.

Above: Iroko framing around the sink area and floating box feature on the island complement the feature sliding door to bring depth to the scheme Right: A solid iroko sliding door divides the kitchen from the utility room beyond, allowing it to be closed off from the main living space as required





## WITH MOOD LIGHTING BUILT INTO THE IROKO BOX ON THE ISLAND, IN THE PLINTHS AND RECESSED ABOVE THE HOB, THE ROOM TAKES ON A NEW AMBIENCE IN THE EVENINGS



#### Did Pat and John have a kitchen wish-list?

My clients had one specific request. They wanted a contemporary kitchen with simple lines, yet nothing too modern that would date easily. With this in mind, we chose satin lacquer magnolia as an easy to live with neutral foundation of the kitchen. I liaised with the architect, Neil Darby to ensure that the form of the kitchen would sit almost seamlessly within its surroundings. As this is an open plan configuration, I felt it was important that the kitchen blend effortlessly with its environment rather than stand out so I introduced iroko wood into the cabinetry details to complement and interact with the iroko joinery throughout the room, which continues into the hallway and staircase

# Did Pat and John choose any gadgets over and above their essential appliances?

Pat's main decision was the oven as she needed one with a capacity to fit large roasting dishes and more than one cake at the same time. The Neff SlideAway has everything she needs with no unnecessary functions. The only additional luxury 'gadget' she went for was the Quooker boiling water tap — a great time saving device which erases the need for a kettle

#### What are the unique design elements?

These include the bespoke decanter unit with iroko internal features and glass shelving. The frosted window with iroko frame behind the hob is an unusual alternative to a conventional splashback. The original plan had been to have a clear window here but I suggested changing it to frosted glass to create a splashback effect. The iroko 'floating' box with mood lighting on the back of the island continues the iroko/magnolia combination. Harmonising the kitchen and living area, we designed bespoke 'floating' storage on both walls of the living room, providing additional storage and creating a co-ordinated look

Jason Canavan, Director, Canavan Interiors



Appliances: Neff appliances – SlideAway oven, combi microwave, warming drawer, Flushline extra wide induction hob and integrated dishwasher.

Liebherr 178cm integrated larder fridge, 178cm integrated larder freezer, and 123cm integrated larder fridge. Gutmann extractor

Fixtures & Fittings: Häcker Systemaat cabinetry with Magnolia structured lacquer door and iroko wood features from Canavan Interiors, designed in association with Neil Darby Architects. Franke Kubus undermount sink. Oberon tap with rinse, Perrin & Rowe. Quooker instant boiling water tap. Perrin & Rowe soap dispenser. Porcelain floor tiles with rectified edges 600x1200mm, Ceco Flooring. Aluminio Nube 50mm box edge work surfaces, Silestone. Wall colour, Lamp Room Gray modern emulsion, Farrow & Ball





# INSPIRED KITCHEN DESIGN





CONSULTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary Tel: 067 34377 info@richardburkedesign.com richardburkedesign.com





Location: Blackwater, Co Wexford Bespoke kitchen in solid poplar, handpainted in Farrow & Ball Cornforth White, from Woodale Designs. Work surfaces in Silestone Lagoon with 60mm drop edge

Woodale Designs, Lower Pollerton Road, Carlow 059 914 3979 woodaledesigns.com







e started out with the intention of simply increasing the size of our living room and, before we knew it, we were taking on a much larger extension project to create an open plan kitchen, living and dining space with additional bedroom space above!' says Susan. 'The sitting room was really small and north facing, so the plan was to extend on a small scale to give us a bit more living space but once we started exchanging ideas with our architect, it made sense to add a larger extension to the side of the house, allowing us to benefit from a southerly aspect.'

Adding an extension to the other side of the house with floor to ceiling glazing and knocking dividing walls between the original kitchen and living room has created a really spacious L-shaped room with great views and lots of natural light. 'This is our holiday home so I wanted the interior to be low maintenance and contemporary in style. We live in a Victorian house with a classic kitchen so for this house, I liked the idea of going more contemporary as a contrast. I'd spotted a linear design by Woodale Designs in a magazine so went along to the showroom, where I dealt with designer Keith Fennelly and the wheels were set in motion.'

Although keen to achieve a pared back, understated look, Susan knew she didn't want a gloss or lacquer kitchen. 'I wanted a bespoke, one-off design yet with a minimal look and contemporary finishes. This is the style I'd admired in the magazine so I knew that Keith would come up with my ideal scheme.'

Talking through her list of must-haves with Keith, Susan had a clear idea of what she wanted. The next stage was leaving it to Keith to translate these ideas into a tangible design that would be both visually balanced and functional. Although the cabinetry is plain and modern on the façade, the internals demonstrate traditional techniques with solid oak internals, pullouts and leather lining to ensure the contents stay firmly in place. With more drawers than traditional doors, this design is functional and easy to work in and maintain. 'I wanted everything to be flat and flush fitting with no ornate detail, beading or moulding yet I still wanted warmth and character, which is achieved through the Farrow & Ball Cornforth White finish.'

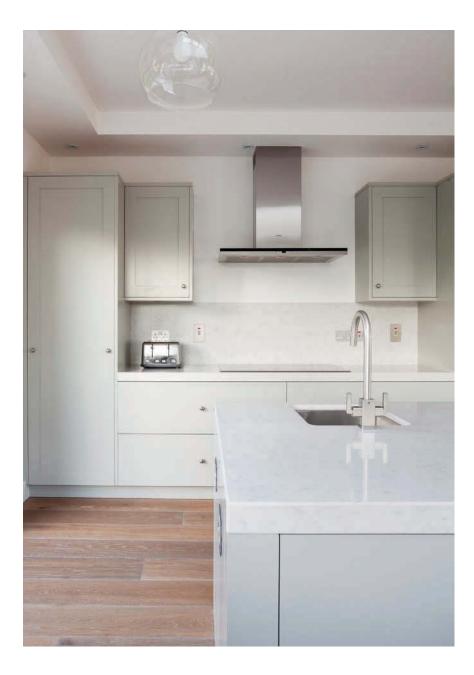
Symmetry is key to the design – you can see how the linear doors line up perfectly, even the work surfaces are fitted totally flush to the cabinetry with not even the slightest overhang. Right down to the finer details, the handles are discreet and blend with the uncomplicated aesthetic. 'This is exactly what I was looking for - a contemporary style yet with all the benefits and luxury of a bespoke kitchen.'

Above left: The drawer beneath the hob has a double tier, ideal for cutlery with a separate tier for crockery Above right: The Silestone Lagoon work surface fits flush to the island with no overhang, enhancing the streamlined linear style Opposite: A spacious L-shaped extension, the room wraps around the side of the house, benefiting from the southerly aspect and all its associated natural light





SYMMETRY IS KEY TO THE DESIGN - YOU CAN SEE HOW THE LINEAR DOORS LINE UP PERFECTLY. EVEN THE WORK SURFACES ARE FITTED TOTALLY FLUSH TO THE CABINETRY



Were many changes made to the original design? Only minimal alternations were made. We were originally going to have wall cabinets on the left hand wall where the sink is but Susan was keen to keep wall furniture to a minimum. I liaised with the architect and together we tweaked the design to ensure we had the right balance of furniture to ensure the streamlined aesthetic that Susan described in her brief

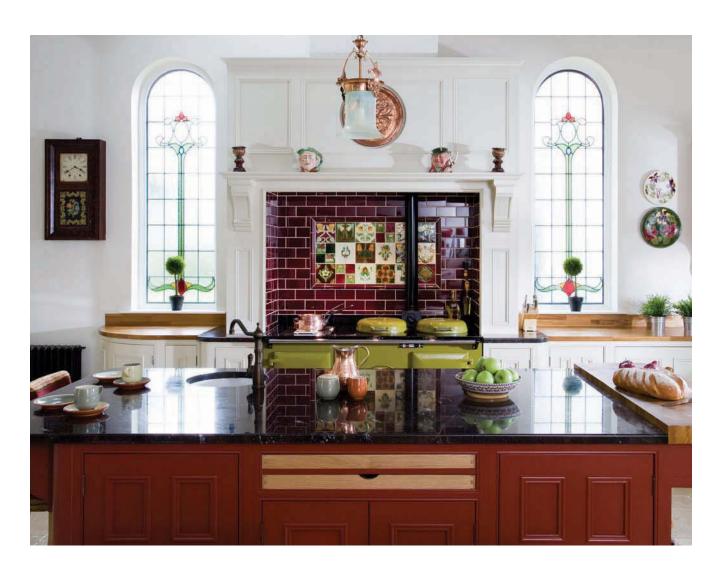
Did Susan and Paul have a very specific set of ideas? They knew from day one what they wanted so it was up to the architect and I to make it work and come up with the best possible plan. Susan wanted a linear design with a chunky, substantial feel so I knew the room had to have 60mm thick work surfaces. Contemporary kitchens also suit ultra slim profile worktops but the cabinetry was so substantial, especially the island so I knew that the 60mm tops would really complement the scheme. The couple didn't want a breakfast bar at the island so again, to continue the streamlined aesthetic, I designed the Silestone tops to fit completely flush to there is no overhang. Symmetry was another priority so I made sure that every drawer and door lined up perfectly to create a balanced, harmonious look

Where have you incorporated the main storage solutions? Rather than serving as a casual eating area, the island is the work centre of the kitchen so I've designed storage to both sides of this unit. There's a combination of drawers and door style furniture on the other base units but even the doors have pullouts concealed behind them. To the left of the fridge freezer, I've included a drinks cabinet with glass shelving and builtin lighting and there's a tall larder for food storage to the far end of the room

Keith Fennelly, Director, Woodale Designs



Appliances: Siemens appliances – extra wide induction hob with extraction system, combi steam oven, single oven and warming drawer, from the iQ700 series, 70/30 fridge freezer and integrated dishwasher. The combi steam and single oven cover all Susan's cooking needs while a warming drawer at the bottom is a handy extra for keeping food or plates warm before serving Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke kitchen in solid poplar, handpainted in Farrow & Ball Cornforth White, from Woodale Designs, Work surfaces in Silestone Lagoon with 60mm drop edge. Two Sapphire undermount sinks and two Sapphire Girona taps in brushed steel. Wide plan oak flooring from The Hardwood Flooring Company. The dining table was designed and made by Keith of Woodale Designs. Crafted from oak, it's been smoked, stained and oiled to complement the flooring. Kitchen handles in satin stainless steel. Pendant lighting above the island is from Bright Lights, Lighting over the dining table is from Ikea. Hans Wegner Wishbone dining chairs from Blue Suntree



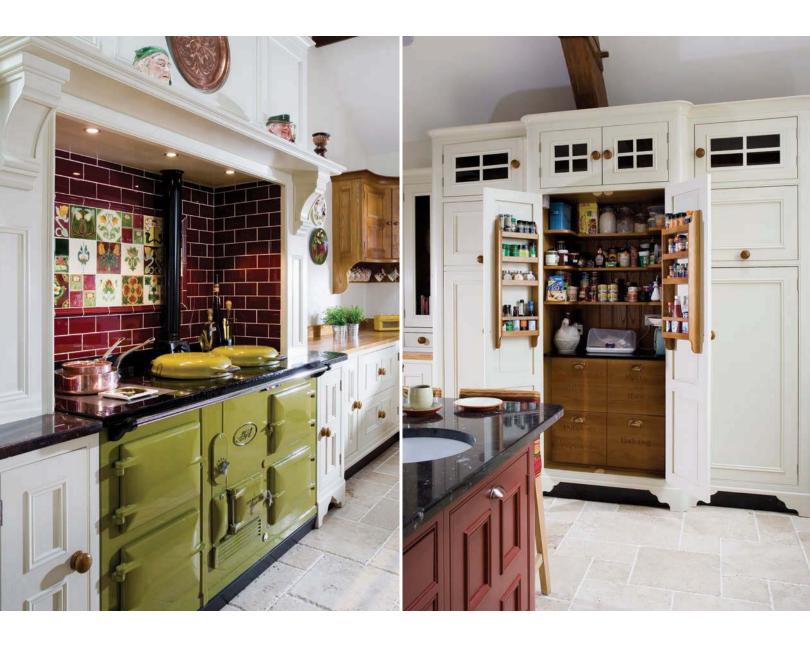
# ARTS & CRAFTS

Lynne and Jonathan have substantially extended their home, which they also run as a country house *B&B*, to create a much larger kitchen to cater for their family and guests

Photography Rory Corrigan

Above: Lynne's antique tiles inspired the striking colour scheme. Not everyone would be daring enough to go for a green Aga but it really works here! Opposite: The little pull-out trays in the island, the iroko slatted wood on the island and the hanging pots all add unique touches to this bespoke scheme





ynne and Jonathan run their 1920s red brick home as a country guesthouse so their kitchen has a lot to live up to. 'We moved into the house in 2005 and added two extensions, one to the side as sleeping accommodation and this extension to the rear for the new kitchen, open plan to a living area and conservatory. The kitchen we inherited when we moved in was tiny so I was delighted when we got to work on choosing a brand new design to fill our new, well-proportioned space,' says Lynne.

The couple have a passion for antiques and love to spend their holidays in England, visiting antiques fairs. Between collecting antiques and picking up salvaged items as they find them, Lynne and Jonathan were keen to create a distinctive Arts & Crafts look for their new kitchen. 'We love the

### KITCHEN PROFILE

Location: Lisnacurran Country House B&B, Lisburn, Co Down. Bespoke 30mm inframe handcrafted kitchen, handpainted on site - main cabinetry in Farrow & Ball String with island in a rich red from the Crown Historic Colours collection – by Wrights Design House Wright's Design House, Temple Cross, Lisburn 028 9263 9964 wrightsdesignhouse.com





Arts & Crafts style and I have lots of antiques, including the copper plaque, Victorian tiles and an old light reclaimed from a rectory in County Antrim, that I wanted to incorporate into the kitchen,' says Lynne. Having worked with designer Glen Wright of Wrights Design House in the past, Lynne enlisted his skills to come up with a winning design for this characterful country house.

Due to window positioning, the option of a run of wall cabinets was ruled out, which actually worked to the advantage of the overall design. The result is a less fitted finish, in keeping with the country style effortless mix and match look. Leaving the colour choice to Lynne, Glen made the call on the scale for the island, mantel and dresser to ensure everything was in proportion.

With cream cabinets painted in Farrow & Ball String and the island painted in a rich red from the Crown Historic Victorian collection, the colours combine to striking effect. As a vibrant, somewhat quirky contrast, Lynne has chosen a bright green tone for her reconditioned Aga. 'When my mum first saw this colour - Boxington from Little Greene - she wasn't sure I'd made the right decision. It was installed before the kitchen but now that the whole scheme is complete, I think the red and green are gorgeous together.'

Lynne's collection of antiques really complements her new kitchen. Glen has incorporated Lynne's beloved copper plaque into the mantel above the range cooker so it's effectively become part of the furniture. A truly bespoke design, this is sure to stand the test of time.

### WE LOVE THE ARTS & CRAFTS STYLE AND I HAVE LOTS OF ANTIQUES, INCLUDING THE COPPER PLAQUE, VICTORIAN TILES AND AN OLD LIGHT RECLAIMED FROM A RECTORY



Did Lynne and Jonathan have a very specific brief? I'd worked with Lynne and Jonathan previously on other projects so we knew we were on the same wavelength when it came to styles and the general overall look they wanted to achieve. Lynne wanted to ensure that the kitchen suited the style of the house and because it's run as a guesthouse, practically and visual appeal were both essential

How did the architecture dictate the layout? The windows restricted wall space for cabinetry but this actually worked out as an advantage. The stained glass is a beautiful feature, which frames the Aga, lending the design to a more freestanding, furnished look. Rather than looking like a conventional kitchen, the unfitted bespoke cabinetry gives the room a relaxed ambience, more a collection of handcrafted furniture with antique accents rather than a standard kitchen. The room has generous proportions so incorporating plenty of storage was simple. A tall freestanding dresser on the left hand side of the room houses a double pantry along with the fridge freezer and the island, also generous in size holds a lot of additional storage

Was it difficult to incorporate the couple's antiques into the scheme? The copper plaque, Victorian tiles and reclaimed light actually blended seamlessly into their new surroundings. The choice of green Aga and red painted finish for the island complement the tiles and the copper finish of the plaque and pendant light have been continued with the addition of some copper pots hanging on the island, It's a very individual scheme that reflects the personality of its owners

Glen Wright, Director, Wrights Design House



Appliances: Aga reconditioned range cooker from Boyhill Cookers, Bosch appliances – integrated fridge freezer and dishwasher. The Aga, painted in Boxington from Little Greene is a stunning feature in itself, while her other essential appliances – fridge freezer and dishwasher – are concealed behind the inframe cabinetry to allow the kitchen furniture to shine. Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke 30mm inframe handcrafted kitchen, handpainted on site – main cabinetry in Farrow & Ball String with island in a rich red from the Crown Historic Victorian collection – by Wrights Design House. 30mm Breccia Imperiale granite work surfaces. 80mm iroko wood butcher's block and worktop. Brass taps from Perrin & Rowe. Double farmhouse sink from Villeroy & Boch. Dining table and chairs from Antiques Warehouse. Chairs reupholstered by Sarah Gee at House of Curtains



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# TOTAL TRANSFORMATION

The owners of this recently extended property have replaced a dated, dark pine kitchen with this beautiful bespoke upgrade with dovetail drawers and striking accent colour







Location: Ballina, Co Tipperary Bespoke poplar cabinetry – handpainted in Colortrend Almost White with Mulberry Magic on the island, with solid ash dovetailed drawers - from Richard Burke Design Richard Burke Design, Nenagh, Co Tipperary 067 34337 richardburkedesign.com



Left: As a contrast to the Almost White cabinetry, a rich shade of Mulberry Magic has been chosen for the island, which has been carried though to the window blinds Above middle: Two solid wood trays have been incorporated into the base cabinetry for easy access - simply pull out and serve up a snack! Above right: Neat little spice drawers are conveniently positioned near the hob - the attention to detail can be admired in the Richard Burke engraving on the side of the dovetailed drawers

aving lived with their antique pine kitchen for a number of years, the owners of this newly extended house decided it was time for a change. Their previous kitchen was of its time but the antique pine cupboards were quite dark and began to look dated. The actual layout was also problematic, in that it simply didn't provide adequate storage. The couple have three young children so they felt they'd outgrown the space.

Although the couple's new kitchen is in the same footprint as the previous one, the room has been opened up and extended to create space for a living and dining area to either end with the kitchen centrally located between the two. They consulted with Richard Burke, owner and designer at Richard Burke Designs while in the early stages of their extension project, which provided the opportunity to discuss all the options and make any necessary changes to optimise the layout before proceeding.

Efficient storage and a light and airy scheme were top of the priority list. The couple loved the thought of having a place for everything. And, while storage was of paramount importance so too was the overall look of the room. As such, they didn't want

the furniture to be too imposing or cluttered looking in the space but Richard achieved the right balance and composition. A light and airy colour scheme with accent shade on the island, the design demonstrates clean lines yet accommodates a wealth of storage with a place for everything this family needs.

The attention to detail is remarkable; traditional dovetail joinery techniques have been employed to ensure a premium finish, with signature Richard Burke engravings on the side of the drawers. Glazed sections along the top of the tall cabinetry add detail and reflect light and deep pullout drawers provide easy access storage. The cabinet to the left of the sink has been finished with bifolding doors, ideal for concealing the family's toaster, microwave and the like. And below, a pair of solid wood serving trays has been design to fit neatly into the base cabinet, while adding a wood contrast to the Almost White handpainted finish.

Tailored to meet the growing needs of this busy family, this unique and bespoke design is a world apart from its antique pine predecessor. Combining functionality and ease of use with strong visual appeal, this is a beautiful cooking, relaxing and entertaining space.



### THE COUPLE LOVED THE THOUGHT OF HAVING A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING. AND, WHILE STORAGE WAS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE SO TOO WAS THE OVERALL LOOK OF THE ROOM



Did your clients know what they wanted for their new kitchen? They had set the wheels in motion and were extending their kitchen when they got me on board, so they had a vision of creating a more spacious open plan layout with room for a new kitchen with dining and living areas to either end. Their previous kitchen was quite dark and dated and didn't provide them with the storage they needed, and with three young children, they needed to maximise their storage. They knew what they wanted to a certain degree ie. a lighter colour scheme with more storage and a place for everything but there were unclear about specific styles

Was the extension complete when they came for the initial consultation? The extension was in motion when I started working on the project but it was in the very early stages, which gave me the freedom to make suggestions to maximise the potential layout. I suggested blocking up a window, which provided uninterrupted wall space for the run of tall cabinetry. The window was where the fridge freezer is; it was of no real benefit to the room as it looked into a wall of a neighbouring house and didn't let in much light. This wall of 8ft. cabinetry houses the ovens, dishwasher, fridge freezer, two larders and additional storage so is key to the overall design

Did you design any other furniture as well as the kitchen cabinetry? Yes, to tie the scheme together and create a harmonious look – as well as enhancing the practical storage - I designed a glazed dresser in the dining area for storing glasses and tableware. I also designed a window seat in the dining area. The window here was quite high so the bespoke seat finishes it off and creates a furnished, homely feel

Richard Burke. Richard Burke Kitchens



Appliances: Siemens appliances – two iQ700 single ovens fitted at eye level, 800mm induction hob, built-in ceiling extraction. The Electrolux integrated dishwasher has been fitted at eye level. Rather than going for an integrated refrigeration system, the couple decided on a Samsung RS7567BHCSL Frost-free side-by-side fridge freezer with easy clean steel finish Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke poplar cabinetry – handpainted in Colortrend Almost White with Mulberry Magic on the island, with solid ash dovetailed drawers – from Richard Burke Design. Work surfaces in Silestone lagoon and breakfast bar in solid ash. Double bowl white ceramic sink, Franke. Webert tap and Quooker instant boiling water tap





Location: Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh Bespoke contemporary kitchen – painted in Farrow & Ball Bringal and Zoffany Quarter Silver with feature island/ breakfast bar – from Greenhill Handmade Kitchens Greenhill Handmade Kitchens, 93 Omagh Rd, Ballygawley, Co Tyrone 028 8556 8631 greenhillkitchens.co.uk



inda and John's new build has been designed to maximise the beautiful countryside views. With a vaulted ceiling, • huge windows and a spacious open plan layout, this striking interior provided a fabulous blank canvas just perfect for a statement kitchen. No strangers to contemporary design, Linda and John's previous kitchen was a modern high gloss style. 'We went for a gloss kitchen in our last house but, although I loved the contemporary look, I found it very high maintenance. For our new house, I wanted something different yet still linear and pared back with clean lines,' says Linda.

Having been recommended Greenhill Handmade Kitchens by friends, Linda visited the showroom with her daughter, who helped her with the design and interior scheme for the whole house. 'I went along with an open mind but had originally thought of having a grey kitchen, until we chatted to designer Peter Leonard and together the three of us talked through various options.' Offering a more practical alternative to Linda's previous gloss kitchen, Peter suggested a semi matt finish, a current German trend. 'The semi matt option was much more forgiving and still gave us the sharp look we wanted to achieve.'

Greenhill manufacture their own bespoke designs so, rather than being limited to colours from a particular range, they had the freedom to choose any colour from any palette. 'My daughter has a great eye for design so she was instrumental in helping me choose styles, finishes and colours and tying the whole scheme together.'

The tall cabinetry housing the main larder storage and appliances is oak, painted in Farrow & Ball Bringal which gives a rich contrast to the rest of the units, which are finished in Zoffany Quarter Silver. Carrying the purple hue to the other side of the room, a wall panel in Bringal balances the scheme and a trim on the glass-topped breakfast bar continues the rich tone. The painted wood furniture gives the best of both worlds, a clean-cut finish with texture, which, over time, can be repainted to change the theme.

Although Linda also had a large kitchen in her last house with plenty of storage, this time around she wanted more functional and easily accessible drawer storage. The appliance wall has lots of practical space with an integrated fridge in the centre and larder and broom storage to either side. 'Not only does our kitchen look fantastic, it's a joy to work in with a place for everything!'

Left: The vaulted ceiling with wall painted in Zoffany Double Silver is the perfect place for the feature wall of appliances & larder storage Above: The Miele downdraft extractor is paired with the induction for optimum results, ideal for rooms with high or vaulted ceilings Middle: The rich aubergine tones of the Farrow & Ball Bringal warm up the cool Zoffany Quarter Silver units to create showstopping style





THE PAINTED WOOD FURNITURE GIVES THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS, A CLEAN-CUT FINISH WITH TEXTURE, WHICH, OVER TIME, CAN BE REPAINTED TO CHANGE THE THEME



What design brief did you receive from your client? Linda and her daughter visited the showroom with a good idea of what they wanted yet with an open mind to consider new suggestions. After having a high gloss kitchen, Linda knew she wanted something equally contemporary yet easier to keep. She also specified drawer storage and pullouts for clever storage and accessibility. When it came to colours and finer details, Linda's daughter had great ideas and advised her so together the three of us came up with a successful scheme

What are the benefits of a semi matt finish over gloss? Gloss can be high maintenance with a tendency to show up marks, whereas semi matt is more forgiving yet with the desired contemporary finish. Semi matt is a current trend coming through from Germany and here at Greenhill we manufacture our own bespoke designs, which gives us the versatility to provide endless options in terms of colour and finish. This cabinetry is oak with a painted finish, which gives the benefit of the texture of wood with the streamlined look of a contemporary door style

Did you take any U-turns with the design? We considered having kitchen cabinetry on the other side of the room near the wall-mounted TV but instead decided on a floating unit beneath the TV for remote controls and the like. This ties the scheme together without overpowering or cluttering the space. In an otherwise linear design, we added a circular breakfast bar, which softens the look and provides a more sociable arrangement for casual dining

Peter Leonard, Head Designer, Greenhill Handmade Kitchens



Appliances: All Miele appliances – two ovens, a steam oven and a microwave have been arranged symmetrically to either side of the integrated larder fridge. An induction hob with extraction system is housed in the island, while an undercounter integrated freezer and dishwasher are concealed within the base units Fixtures & Fixtures & Fixtures: Bespoke contemporary kitchen – painted in Farrow & Ball Bringal and Zoffany Quarter Silver with feature island/breakfast bar – from Greenhill Handmade Kitchens, Corian work surfaces in Gemini – thick profile with wraparound on the island and slim on other surfaces. Floor tiles from MDC Tiles run throughout the house. Feature wall with vaulted ceiling painted in Zoffany Double Silver with remaining walls in Zoffany Half Silver. Calligaris bar stools in Taupe from Uno Modern Living

# MOVING UPWARDS

Caroline and Simon have relocated their kitchen from the basement to the ground floor and upgraded to a bespoke new design in keeping with the style of their home

Photography Barry Murphy

hen Caroline and Simon moved into their period style home, it had a dark walnut contemporary style kitchen. 'The kitchen itself was fine but we felt it didn't complement the period style of the house. Also, it was located in the basement, which we found to be a little dark and oppressive. After living here for about six months, we decided to do a revamp, relocating the kitchen to the ground floor in what had been two rooms, a reception and dining room,' says Caroline. Knocking these two rooms into one, the couple now have a spacious room with a classic bespoke kitchen with dining area and sunroom overlooking the garden.

'I've always admired Rhatigan & Hick kitchens and, after browsing on their website, we visited the showroom for a closer look.' Co-owner and designer, Ed Rhatigan showed them various designs and took time to discuss their specific requirements. 'Ed is very knowledgeable and has a great eye for design.' Deciding on a luxurious combination of oiled oak for the island and cabinetry handpainted in two subtle tones of pale blue, the couple left the finer design details to Ed. With the island as a central feature, the oak has been given a lightly distressed finish. The island top is a chunky 50mm marble, to match the run of worktop and splashback along the back wall, a special order imported from Spain. With a brushed and honed finish, its surface is tactile and leathery to the touch, which enhances the premium feel of the scheme. Along the left hand wall, a handsome piece of freestanding furniture contains substantial storage to include a fridge, pantry, built-in microwave and freezer, all integrated to continue the fully furnished, harmonious look.

The Aga takes centre stage, while wall cabinets and a wall-mounted dresser add further detail with signature Rhatigan & Hick ribbed glass. 'This was another of Ed's ideas; the ribbed effect of the glass is beautiful and, on a practical note, it partly obscures the view of the contents, so you can get away it with being less than perfectly tidy! The groove in the glass adds a nostalgic retro vibe to the design, which has also been added to the freestanding larder.'

Another signature design can be admired in the cup handles, embossed with the Rhatigan & Hick logo. 'We fell in love with these as soon as we saw them. In fact, we fell in love with the entire design from the outset!'











THE AGA TAKES CENTRE STAGE, WHILE WALL CABINETS AND A WALL-MOUNTED DRESSER ADD FURTHER DETAIL WITH SIGNATURE RHATIGAN & HICK RIBBED GLASS

### KITCHEN PROFILE

Location: Rathgar, Co Dublin Bespoke oak design with cup handles handpainted in two specially mixed shades of pale blue with a white oiled finish on the island - from Rhatigan & Hick.The design includes a wall mounted dresser with rib effect glass Rhatigan & Hick, Aughrim, Co Wicklow 0402 94661 rhatiganandhick.ie



Appliances: Aga range cooker. To supplement the range cooker, the Caroline and Simon have chosen a Wolf gas cooktop and a Britannia undercounter oven, both fitted in the island. Miele appliances downdraft extractor, integrated 760mm wide larder fridge, freezer, two integrated dishwashers. One dishwasher is fitted in the island while the other is concealed in the utility area, giving backup and coming in handy when entertaining

Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke oak design with embossed cup handles - cabinetry handpainted in two specially mixed shades of pale blue with a white oiled finish on the island - from Rhatigan & Hick. 50mm marble work surfaces and splashback imported from Spain. Franke sinks - one in the island and one concealed sink, housed behind tall cabinetry in the utility area. Franke 3-in-1 Minerva kettle tap and Franke tap in concealed utility area. Flooring by Oscar Ono

Right: A handsome piece of freestanding furniture contains substantial storage to include a fridge, pantry, built-in microwave and freezer, all integrated to continue the fully furnished, harmonious look **Below:** The island provides lots of additional storage, with twin level internals allowing for a range of items to be easily accessible





Ed Rhatigan, Director, Rhatigan & Hick



Did Caroline and Simon know what they wanted when they first consulted with you? They had a general concept in mind and wanted to be very involved in the design and layout but were also open to suggestions and were keen to explore my ideas on how to make their scheme unique and fitting to the style of their home

What did they want to achieve? The kitchen they inherited was walnut and situated in the basement, which meant the room was dark and lacking in ambience. As well as poor positioning, Caroline and Simon felt that the style of the kitchen didn't do the house justice so they were keen, not only to replace the kitchen but relocate it to the ground floor. In doing this, they achieved a much more spacious and bright room with views over the garden. Although the house is quite new, it has period style influences so the couple wanted to achieve a classic look with the kitchen furniture, in keeping with the architectural detail and style throughout

What are the most striking design features? The ribbed glass is an attractive feature that Caroline and Simon admired in one of our showroom displays. Rather than plain or frosted glass, the ribbed effect gives a retro feel and is forgiving in that the contents of the furniture is partially obscured. We've included this glass detail in the wall cabinets, larder and wall-mounted dresser. The larder is a striking piece of furniture in its own right, as is the bow-fronted island and wall-mounted dresser. Caroline liked the idea of a dresser but didn't want it to consume floor space so this design was a great compromise











# tools of THE TRADE

everyday essentials, cutlery for fine dining and quirky holders for a rustic vibe

I Keep it casual with this distressed wood cutlery tray from **Loaf**. £35/€44 **2** Go for a French farmhouse look with this metal cutlery holder from Boutique Provencale. £23/€29 3 Wooden cutlery box from **Boutique Provencale** is another quirky alternative to the traditional cutlery drawer. £66/€85 4 Handmade by The Cutlery Commission, this 'Happiness is a piece of cake and a cup of tea' fork and spoon set would make a novel gift. £28/€36 5 Channel the copper trend with this brushed copper 24-piece cutlery set from House of Fraser. £180/€229 6 This elegant gold cutlery from Rose & Grey is made from stainless steel with titanium gold plating in a satin finish. £11/€14 **7** The **Alessi** Big Love ice-cream spoon has been designed in the shape of a heart. £30/€38 for set of 6 8 Barton 24-piece cutlery set in Charcoal from Neptune is perfect for casual or formal entertaining. £48/€60 9 Add a fun touch to a tea party with this set of four pineapple spoons from Oliver Bonas. £16/€20 10 Ideal for a special occasion, the Mezzo 24-piece set from Cutipol at Amara is made from stainless steel with a matt silver plated finish. £446/€568















Location: Dublin 4

Bespoke inframe solid ash kitchen – painted in Farrow & Ball colours, Old White with Studio Green on the island – from Johanna Montgomery Designs. Natural stone work contrasts with the dark toned island

Johanna Montgomery Designs, 28a Lisnamanny Road, Martinstown, Ballymena 028 2175 8400 johannamontgomerydesigns.co.uk







ames and Catherine were overjoyed when they discovered that a number of their daughters - who had to gone to London and beyond on completing their degrees - were planning to return to Dublin with husbands and children to set up home. 'They invited Grandma and Grandad to join them in the city!' says Catherine. 'This was a suggestion that few grandparents could refuse so we were thrilled when the family spotted this Regency home, totally unspoilt, with almost all original features intact. The kitchen however was in poor repair, which in turn created a wonderful opportunity.'

Embarking on a substantial renovation and extension project, the couple have sensitively updated the interior, maintaining the beautiful period features in the original house and adding a spacious extension to the rear to accommodate a fabulous bespoke kitchen with open plan layout, ideal for large family gatherings.

Steeped in history and character, the house has been decorated throughout in a classic colour palette to complement the period of the architecture. For the new extension, James and Catherine wanted to continue this timeless feel with a bespoke kitchen that would complement their existing furniture, which they've lovingly collected over the years. Rather than extending directly onto the back wall of the house, a link between old and new has been created with a courtyard connecting the original footprint to the new structure. Sympathetically designed to complement and enhance the dwelling, the extension features large windows and a roof lantern.

James and Catherine had a good idea of what they wanted in terms of style for their kitchen. Johanna Montgomery had designed several kitchens for other members of their family so they knew there was no need to shop around. Impressed with Johanna's designs and ideas, they left it to Johanna to translate their ideas into a functional and visually strong design and layout, custom designed to suit their new open plan space.

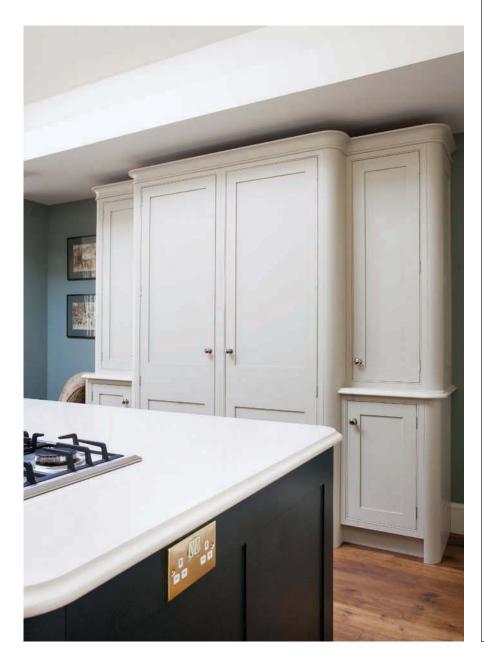
Visiting the Farrow & Ball showroom, they selected colours, not only for the kitchen but the entire house. Choosing Old White for the kitchen cabinetry, they decided on Studio Green as a striking contrast on the island. Paired with natural stone work surfaces and a reconditioned black Aga with custom mantel, the colour scheme and timeless design is truly befitting to this period residence. Featuring tall cabinetry with contoured details, custom designed internals and dresser style storage, this scheme connects old with new to achieve seamless style. 'We're delighted with our new kitchen; it sits so perfectly in our open plan space. We love spending time here with our growing family. This kitchen was designed to bring joy and happiness to many generations yet unborn!

Above left: Cup handles on the drawers contrast with traditional knobs on the doors to add detail and interest Above middle: Pegging systems ensure that everything stays in place, ideal for preventing crockery from shifting in drawers Opposite: The island is a striking central feature of the room, flooded by natural light from the roof lantern above





## SYMPATHETICALLY DESIGNED TO COMPLEMENT AND ENHANCE THE DWELLING, THE EXTENSION FEATURES LARGE WINDOWS AND A ROOF LANTERN



#### What structural work was carried?

My clients renovated the existing house and added an extension onto the back to provide room for a spacious kitchen with an open plan layout. They loved the idea of a large sociable area where they could entertain and enjoy family gatherings so were keen to create a layout where they could cook, dine and relax in the one space. There's a walkway linking the old house with the extension with a little courtyard in between, which brings more light into the room

Did your clients have a strong vision of how their kitchen should look? They have great taste and a really good eye for interiors so they came to me with images of looks they liked, which was a great starting point. They left it to me to come up with a successful design that incorporated all their priorities while working in the space, to achieve the right proportions as well as, of course, a functional design

What are your favourite design features? The mantel is a really strong element in the scheme. I designed it with large corbels and a chunky shelf, which is great for displaying jars or ornaments. Rather than having doors on the front, I designed little recesses into the sides to provide storage space for oils or condiments. Across the room, the tall cabinetry has been designed to resemble a freestanding dresser with ledges in natural stone to match the work surfaces. The larder fridge and freezer are integrated into the centre of this piece and there's storage to either side for dry foods. The contoured edges on the furniture soften the look and the dresser style cabinet enhances the classic style. The island is another standout piece - painted in Farrow & Ball Studio Green, it's dark and dramatic, bringing a really strong contrast to the room

Johanna Montgomery, Director, Johanna Montgomery Designs



Appliances: Reconditioned Aga in black. Neff B15E52N Series 2 single multifunction oven with circotherm, T22S46 Series 2 60cm gas hob and SE5 IE integrated dishwasher. Rather than choosing a 70/30 fridge freezer or American style freestanding model, the owners have opted for an integrated larder fridge and larder freezer. Smeg VI205PNF frost-free freezer. Gorenje RI4181AW fridge Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke inframe solid ash kitchen – painted in Farrow & Ball colours, Old White with Studio Green on the island – from Johanna Montgomery Designs. Work surfaces in natural stone continue the colour theme of the furniture and contrast with the Studio Green island. Blanco large undermount sink. Picardie tap by Perrin & Rowe with Quooker hot water tap, saving the need for a kettle.





# **TEXTURE** & TONE

Caroline and Paul have gone for a rich combination of textured walnut and handpainted cabinetry with a splash of colour for a timeless yet contemporary vibe

Photography Rory Corrigan

his couple have a new build with an old influence, which adds character and a sense of history to their home. Caroline and Paul have preserved the front wall of the old cottage that once stood here, before building a new house onto this original facade. 'The planning laws stipulated that we kept the original 3ft. thick front wall so we worked with it to combine old with new,' explains Caroline.

Situated in an idyllic elevated position with great views, the new house celebrates light and space with an open plan layout, vaulted ceilings and huge expanses of glazing. 'We lived in our previous home for 17 years, where we had an oak kitchen so this time around I knew I wanted something different with a fresher feel, yet still a timeless look.' When their build was underway, Caroline took the opportunity to do some essential kitchen research and came to the decision that she wanted to go for a walnut kitchen.

Having admired the work of kitchen designer and owner of Shalford Interiors, Ferghal O'Reilly, Caroline arranged a consultation to get the ball rolling. 'Ferghal took such an interest in our design. I did visit a couple of other showrooms but no other designer came close.' As well as wanting a timeless yet modern design, Caroline wanted her new kitchen to include a great deal of storage yet without looking too cabinetry heavy. 'Ferghal did a fabulous job on the storage. He designed the tall bank of cabinetry to fit perfectly along the back wall, which doesn't eat into the floor space of the room. This run of furniture holds so much. In here I have a really spacious double larder with deep pullout drawers. There's a larder fridge and freezer to either side and yet there's still a huge amount of storage for glassware, crockery and the like. All this amazing storage and that doesn't even include the island and pod beneath the breakfast bar!'

Beneath the walnut topped casual dining area, the curved pod provides excellent additional storage while the other side of the island is thoughtfully designed with easy access drawers. 'Everyone sits on the stools around the pod, it's a really practical shape to gather around. Then of course, there's our other little seating area - the bench. My husband spotted one like this in Ferghal's showroom and just had to have it. There isn't one thing we would change about our new kitchen. I love the layout, it's so easy to keep and I'm glad we went with the idea of the handpainted island - it's a lovely contrast and gives us a fabulous two tone scheme that's a pleasure to live in.'







BENEATH THE WALNUT TOPPED CASUAL DINING AREA, THE CURVED POD PROVIDES **EXCELLENT ADDITIONAL STORAGE** WHILE THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ISLAND IS THOUGHTFULLY DESIGNED WITH EASY ACCESS DRAWERS

### KITCHEN PROFILE

Location: Naas, Co Kildare Bespoke design in American walnut with handpainted tulip wood - finished in Farrow & Ball Clunch – by Shalford Interiors. The kitchen features work surfaces in Silestone Blanco Norte with a circular breakfast bar in American walnut Shalford Interiors, Longsight House, Naas, Co Kildare 045 528242 shalford.ie





#### **Appliances**

**Neff** appliances – 5 ring gas hob, cooker hood, combi microwave, single oven with grill, larder fridge and larder freezer. Siemens integrated dishwasher. Caroline's kitchen designer recommended a Neff demo, where she could see the appliances in action. Impressed by the design and functionality of the brand, she chose Neff for the majority of her appliances.

#### Fixtures & Fittings

Bespoke design in American walnut with handpainted tulip wood finished in Farrow & Ball Clunch by Shalford Interiors. Work surfaces in Silestone Blanco Norte with circular breakfast bar in American walnut. Bespoke bench seat on end of island, designed and made by Shalford Interiors. Franke 1.5 bowl undermounted sink and Franke Aerna tap. The striking bar stools are actually old brown leather stools that Caroline had reupholstered.

Left: The tall cabinetry along the back wall has a cream frame to complement the Farrow & Ball Clunch handpainted cabinetry Opposite: The bench seating at the end of the island is an attractive addition, the perfect place to enjoy a morning coffee and the elevated views

How was the kitchen brief devised? I was asked to come on board with the design at the early building stages of Caroline and Paul's home. The couple wanted a customised design so we sat down and talked through every aspect of the kitchen, from the visual appeal to the practical side of things. I like to discuss this in depth with my clients to ensure I get an accurate grasp of what they want from their kitchen and indeed how they will use the space. I make a point of finding out how they plan to use their kitchen, getting an idea of how they will live and cook in the space. This means I can get the balance right with both the visuals and efficiency of the design. Based on this discussion I then produced the initial drawings, which they loved

Ferghal O'Reilly, Director, Shalford Interiors



What was the greatest challenge? Getting the proportions just right was challenging yet very rewarding when the entire scheme fell into place. Caroline wanted a generous sized island but the room is quite narrow so I designed it with a circular breakfast bar, which softens the look and makes it more organic looking in its environment. A rectangular island can look imposing where space is restricted

Describe the most unusual features The circular island has a cyndrical pod with convex door design, which is an unusual and practical storage feature. The tall cabinetry along the back wall has a cream frame to complement the Farrow & Ball Clunch handpainted cabinetry and the bench seating at the end of the island is an attractive addition, the perfect place to enjoy a morning coffee and the elevated views





## **SYMPATHETIC** RENOVATION

A period property in Dublin has been refurbished and extended to accommodate a remarkable kitchen, which echoes the property's original features

Photography Derek Robinson

fter several years of lying uninhabited, this period property in Dublin has been restored to its former glory, retaining character throughout and reconfiguring the interior to meet the demands of a busy family. Commissioning Paul Brazil of Brazil Associates, the owners have breathed new life into the property, transforming the interior with the advice and expertise of their architect to achieve a family home that balances functionality with strong visual appeal.

Demolishing an old conservatory to the rear and adding a single storey extension in its place to accommodate a new kitchen and breakfast area, they've turned what was the original kitchen into a utility room and pantry, which leads from their new light-bathed kitchen. With the new kitchen in the footprint of the conservatory and custom design utility adjacent, the back of the house has been cleverly reorganised to suit modern family living. As well as designing the extension, Paul Brazil also designed the kitchen, which was crafted by kitchen designer, Ronan Carey of Newcastle Design.

Paul liaised with Ronan on his client's behalf so they worked together on every aspect of the design to ensure it met the brief precisely. The kitchen was designed to be a modern, workable room, capable of meeting everyday demands while also performing as a sociable space for entertaining. Although the owners were keen to achieve a fresh and modern look, they also placed significance on a connection between the other living spaces in the original house. Wood panelling can be admired throughout the interior so this architectural feature inspired the door design and the ceiling lantern surround, while other bespoke design details add a contemporary touch to balance the scheme and achieve just the classic contemporary feel that the owners were hoping for.

Notable features such as chrome cup handles, ribbed glass, heavy profile work surfaces and a unique custom designed cooker hood enhance the contemporary feel, which is balanced with the timber panelling to achieve a scheme that exudes both character and cutting edge design. Connecting this beautiful new space to the rest of the house, glazed bifolding doors lead to the other living areas to create a semi open plan feel, where doors can be opened or closed depending on the occasion. For everyday, it can be convenient to zone spacious, while opening the doors to create a large open layout is ideal for entertaining.

To the far end of the room, another set of bifolding doors lead to the landscaped garden to provide a natural connection that will come into its own throughout the summer months. A considered and well-executed design, this is a harmonious scheme that sits effortlessly within its surroundings.











CHROME CUP HANDLES, RIBBED GLASS, HEAVY PROFILE WORK SURFACES AND A UNIQUE CUSTOM DESIGNED COOKER HOOD ENHANCE THE CONTEMPORARY FEEL

Location: Dublin Bespoke kitchen from the Contemporary Collection – handpainted in Farrow & Ball – by Newcastle Design finished with silestone work surfaces. Designed in association with Brazil Associates Newcastle Design, Charvey Way, Rathnew, Co Wicklow

0404 65000 newcastledesign.ie



#### **Appliances**

Delphi 120cm Twin range cooker in stainless steel, Britannia. Miele ovens – Pureline oven and H6800 BP compact oven have been fitted into the cabinetry to provide additional cooking options. KWT 6321 UG wine cooler, concealed extraction system and integrated dishwasher, also Miele. Liebherr BioFresh fridge freezer. The wine cooler is neatly housed in the island, while the tall larder fridge is integrated to the left of the range cooker to ensure a streamlined aesthetic

Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke kitchen from the Contemporary Collection - handpainted in Farrow & Ball by Newcastle Design, designed in association with Brazil Associates. Silestone work surfaces from Miller Brothers Stone. Undermount sink and Fuji tap, both **Franke**. Flooring from Miller Brothers Stone. Bar stools from Newcastle Design. A combination of cup and knob style handles adds contrast and detail to the cabinetry. Glazed sections in the kitchen furniture have been designed using ribbed glass to give a discreet textured finish



Above: Adding contrast to the traditional cabinet knobs, chrome cup handles introduce a contemporary feel Opposite: Shades of grey from the Farrow & Ball collection have been selected to achieve a soft and appealing scheme while the panelled cabinetry gives the scheme a modern edge, with timeless appeal Below: A wine cooler has been incorporated in the island, which is wrapped in silestone surfaces



Ronan Carey, Director Newcastle Design



What was your client's brief? I dealt with the couple's architect, Paul Brazil of Brazil Associates who delivered the brief and directed the design. The kitchen was designed by Paul and constructed to his specification by Newcastle Design. The brief was to provide a bright, modern and efficient kitchen, which also included a family breakfast area, suitable for both the demands of family living as well as space for entertaining. The kitchen was to be an integral part of the home, providing good connections to the main living areas and also to the fully landscaped garden. While bright and modern, the kitchen was designed to complement and reflect the character and detail of the original house

What structural work was carried out? The property had been uninhabited for a number of years and was in a very poor state of repair. An extensive renovation project on the entire property included a onestorey rear extension to accommodate a new kitchen with breakfast area overlooking the garden. The kitchen was constructed as part of a new extension to the property, which replaced a substandard kitchen located in the original house. A new utility area located off the kitchen extension was also designed in the footprint of the original kitchen. The original kitchen was narrow with very limited natural light and no direct access to the garden so this extension provided a dramatic transformation, connecting inside with out and inviting natural light and solar gain

What was the main design challenge? The main challenge was to provide a kitchen that connected the other living areas with each other while providing a hard working family kitchen suitable for entertaining. Timber panelling features throughout the house so panelling features in the kitchen design to complement the existing character while balancing the scheme with contemporary details to create a unique statement design



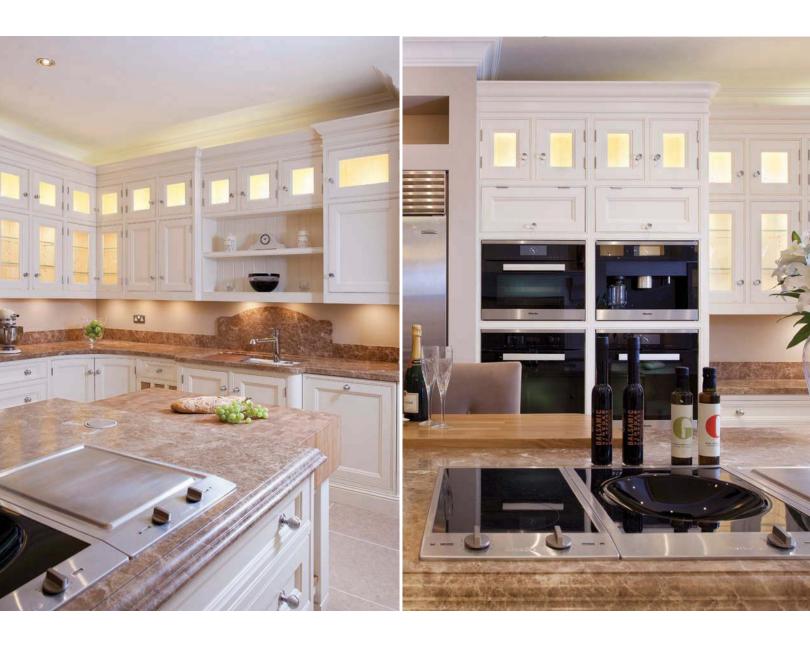
## BESPOKE LUXURY

The Bellingham kitchen from O'Connor's of Drumleck has been expertly crafted, employing traditional joinery techniques with exquisite detailing and luxury finishes

Photography Rory Corrigan

Left: The Sub Zero refrigeration system is a magnificent piece with stainless steel grille panel and 750mm wine cabinet with a capacity of 150 bottles. Recessed into a stud wall, it's streamlined and chic with a recessed display shelf above. An 80mm profile oak breakfast bar with 50mm marble island top enhances the level of luxury in this scheme, accessorised with upholstered bar stools and an elaborate chandelier





Bespoke design in tulip wood, handpainted in Rich Cream from Colortrend, by O'Connor's of Drumleck. Work surfaces are solid marble – 40mm with pencil edge profile on main surface with 50mm profile edge on island

O'Connors of Drumleck, Castlebellingham, Co Louth 042 937 2625 oconnorkitchens.ie decadent design with a host of outstanding features, the Bellingham kitchen from O'Connor's of Drumleck is a stunning showcase of what can be achieved through bespoke design. Solid tulip handpainted in Rich Cream, the cabinetry features butt hinges, solid oak dovetail drawers for a premium and traditional finish, yet is fitted with O'Connor's soft close system to combine classic design with contemporary convenience and functionality.

Framing the Aga range cooker, a custom mantel with extra large corbels and 100mm thick tulip wood shelf, this is one of the defining features of the room. The island with breakfast bar to one





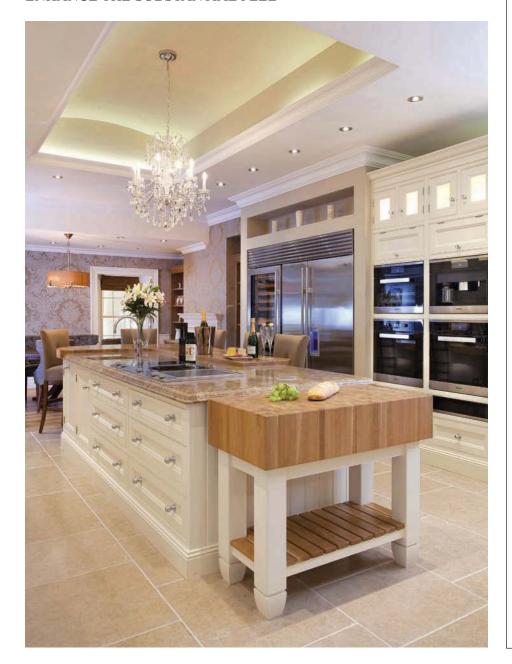
end and freestanding butcher's block to the other is another key element. Standing at 3.5m by 1.5m, the island makes a grand statement with 80mm thick breakfast bar in American white oak with more than enough room to seat 6 people comfortably. Contrasting with the marble work surfaces, the oak top is a warmer and more tactile material to sit at. The butcher's block is freestanding with chunky 100mm legs and solid oak slats, providing additional prep. space. In a kitchen where space may be too limited to accommodate an island, this would work very effectively as a miniature 'island'.

Maximising every inch of workable space, the curved

sections of base cabinetry are exactly replicated in the marble surfaces, which follow this precise contour to provide total use of the corner. Finishing off the cabinetry, the cornicing follows the form of the furniture, while the plinths have been fitted on the façade of the base cabinets to enhance the substantial feel.

Continuing the theme to the dining area, an O'Connor's dining table sets the scene, complemented by a bookcase to either side of the fireplace with wall panelling to tie in with the classic scheme. Packed with design features and displaying beautiful craftsmanship, the Bellingham is an inspirational showcase.

## THE CORNICING FOLLOWS THE FORM OF THE FURNITURE, WHILE THE PLINTHS HAVE BEEN FITTED ON THE FAÇADE OF THE BASE CABINETS TO ENHANCE THE SUBSTANTIAL FEEL



What influenced this design? The Bellingham is one of our display designs, created to showcase just what's possible in a bespoke scheme. A high-end custom kitchen with premium finishes, traditional joinery techniques and attention to detail, this is an inspiring design, which can be translated to suit our clients homes. Whether a client wants to recreate this look at home or take elements of it as an influence in their scheme. the Bellingham has a wide appeal with timeless characteristics

Describe its most remarkable **features** The 30mm thick flat panel profiled edge doors feature butt hinges as well as a special soft close mechanism. This gives the best of both worlds – the traditional look of a butt hinge yet with the convenience of a soft close on a heavy tulip wood door with 40mm beaded frame. The cabinetry is 2.7m in height with 4-piece cornice moulding, enhancing a feeling of grandeur. All end panels are framed to match the doors and 50mm solid wood quadrants feature on the corners to soften the lines. A curved glass cabinet continues the contoured look and light boxes along the top of the cabinetry reflects light and adds contrast

Did you design other furniture in this scheme? Yes, we designed and made the dining table and the bookcase in the dining area, which is oak with a limed finish. We also designed and made the paneling in the dining area and all the skirting, architraves and mouldings

Peter O'Connor, Director O'Connors of Drumleck



Appliances: Miele Generation 6000 appliances - combi steam oven, coffee machine, single oven and digital single oven. Total Control Aga range cooker with module. A Miele 2-ring hob with wok ring and Tepan-Yaki hot plate supplements the range cooker and ovens. Integrated dishwasher is also Miele. Sub Zero side-by-side refrigeration system with wine cabinet Fixtures & Fixtures: Bespoke design in tulip wood, handpainted in Rich Cream from Colortrend, by O'Connor's of Drumleck. Work surfaces are solid marble – 40mm with pencil edge profile on main surface with 50mm profile edge on island. 80mm breakfast bar and freestanding butcher's block in American white oak. Upstands and decorative splashback around sink in solid marble. Main sink - Kohler Smart Divide 1.5 bowl iron tone sink with Grohe Europlus tap. Island sink - Franke white ceramic with Quooker Fusion tap. Bar stools, lighting and dining chairs, sourced by O'Connor's of Drumleck. Dining table designed and made by O'Connor's of Drumleck



FOOD IS ART. PRESERVE IT.





ith a specific set of ideas for her kitchen, Jennifer visited various showrooms with her own drawing of how she wanted her new kitchen to look, both in terms of layout and style. 'I 100% knew what I wanted but the trouble was finding a designer who could tick all the boxes,' says Jennifer. No one would work with her to achieve the truly bespoke design she needed - until she discovered Noel Dempsey Kitchen & Bedroom Design. 'I spotted the Noel Dempsey showroom one day while out driving and decided to give them a try. I can honestly say, this is the best company I've ever dealt with. I dealt with designer Conor who gave me the confidence that he could deliver exactly what I wanted, a custom design with all my detailed requirements,' says Jennifer.

Having lived with her previous kitchen for twelve years and spending time doing her research, Jennifer had a very clear idea of what she wanted to achieve with her new design. 'I hadn't initially considered an inframe design but I went with Conor's advice and he was right! The craftsmanship of the cabinetry is amazing and custom designed to fit to the last millimeter.'

Overcoming obstacles in the room, Conor designed a wall of tall cabinetry to house appliances and storage as well as conceal two existing structural pillars in the room. 'My last kitchen was broken up by the pillars and a second window which has since been removed to create more wall space. The furniture was different heights and depths, I had no island and there was a serious lack of storage. Living with this over the years, I loved the idea of a flush-fitted kitchen with tall furniture, lots of storage as well as a functional island. I also wanted the pillars to be concealed but no other company I consulted were willing to work with me on this, until I found Noel Dempsey. Conor has cleverly designed pantry style storage while concealing the structural supports and maximizing the internal space to create ample room for two larders and an additional storage area to the right of the hob for my ironing board and the like.'

From Jennifer's initial meeting with her designer to the installation of her kitchen, the entire process has been seamless. 'Conor is a perfectionist and has so many great ideas which helped me realise the full potential of the room. As well as perfecting the design and layout, he helped me choose the door handles, work surfaces and appliances to ensure the entire scheme would look its best. The kitchen fitters were so professional and craftsmen in their own right, I was so impressed with their impeccable attention to detail.

Opposite: Inspired by traditional kitchen design, Jennifer's cabinetry features an eye-catching grille design as an alternative to glass or other decorative finish Right: Jennifer is a huge fan of symmetrical schemes so this larder storage is a winning arrangement. It is crafted from solid wood and provides a great amount of storage









AS WELL AS PERFECTING THE DESIGN AND LAYOUT, HE HELPED ME CHOOSE THE DOOR HANDLES, WORK SURFACES AND APPLIANCES TO ENSURE THE ENTIRE SCHEME WOULD LOOK ITS BEST

#### KITCHEN PROFILE

Location: Portmarnock, Co Dublin Bespoke inframe kitchen in solid oak handpainted in Little Greene French Grey Pale with Little Greene French Grey as a contrast on the island – from Noel Dempsey Kitchen & Bedroom Design Noel Dempsey Kitchen & Bedroom Design, Charvey Business Park, Rathnew, Co Wicklow 0404 64548 noeldempsey.com

What was on your client's wish-list? Jennifer knew exactly what she wanted to incorporate into her new kitchen and had done extensive research, buying magazines for inspiration. Having lived with her previous kitchen for twelve years, she knew how she wanted to use the room so, as well as having an idea of style, she was specific on her preferred layout. Wanting a feature mantel with clean lines, a handpainted finish and symmetry for a classic look, she also specified an island for casual dining as well as a dining area and lounge for relaxing in front of the TV

Were any structural changes made to accommodate the new kitchen? As well as the window at the sink, there was a second window where the fridge freezer is positioned. There was plenty of natural light in the room so we decided to do away with this window, which gave us uninterrupted wall space for a full run of tall cabinetry. We concealed two existing pillars inside tall larder style storage to maintain the streamlined, symmetrical finish

What are the strongest design elements? The bank of tall units has the top doors aligned with feature grilles on the doors, which is an unusual alternative to glazed fronts or light boxes, which adds an interesting design element without overpowering the design. Jennifer was originally going to choose an integrated fridge freezer but she went with my suggestion of the stainless steel Fisher & Paykel model, which looks very striking, surrounded by the handpainted cabinetry. The mantel is another notable feature with its clean lines and simplicity of form, which reflected Jennifer's desire for a linear yet classic look. The tall cabinetry is fitted from floor to ceiling, which enhances the bespoke scheme and gives the illusion of height



Conor O'Kelly, Noel Dempsey Kitchen & Bedroom Design





#### **Appliances**

Neff appliances – double oven, microwave and induction hob. Elica built under canopy hood. Bosch integrated dishwasher. Fisher & Paykel stainless steel fridge freezer. It has a large capacity and its stainless steel finish breaks up the cabinetry and complements the stainless steel trim on the eye level ovens

#### Fixtures & Fittings

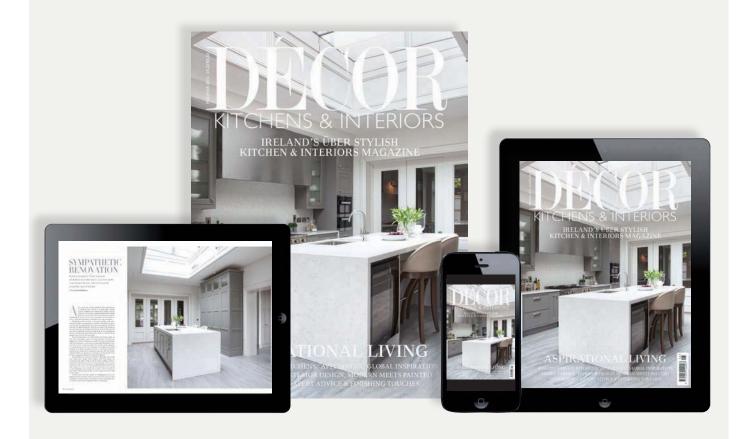
Bespoke inframe kitchen in solid oak - handpainted in Little Greene French Grey Pale with Little Greene French Grey as a contrast on the island – from Noel Dempsey Kitchen & Bedroom Design. Silestone Lagoon quartz work surfaces from Granite Concepts. Franke Peak extra large bowl sink. Bern tap from Franke. Walnut bar stools with Italian leather upholstery, custom designed and made by John O'Connell Furniture

Above: The bank of tall units has the top doors aligned with feature grilles on the doors, which is an unusual alternative to glazed fronts or light boxes, which adds an interesting design element without overpowering the design Top Right: The island provides both additional work surface space while also accommodating casual dining

## KEEP ON TREND WITH DÉCOR KITCHENS & INTERIORS

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## February/March issue available through Apple Newsstand

Décor offers more ways than ever to access inspirational ideas for your kitchen and interiors. For daily updates, why not check out our facebook page and twitter feed. Our pinterest boards will give endless ideas for finishing your sheme. Coming soon is our dedicated Youtube channel Décor TV. Featuring designer interviews, products and more, all filmed to Sky Arts HD standard







Location: Roscrea, Co Tipperary
Bespoke Suffolk kitchen by Neptune – handpainted in Dove Grey –
from Deanery Furniture featuring a Neptune Buckland cooker hood,
modified to suit in the Deanery Furniture workshop

Deanery Furniture Shippone Birr Co Offaly

Deanery Furniture, Shinrone, Birr, Co Offaly 0505 47066 deanery furniture.com







uilt in 1800s, this period property has been lovingly maintained over the years so, when Aoife and Colin took ownership in late 2013, all they needed to do was redecorate. 'The house was structurally sound so the work we carried out was mainly cosmetic, with the exception of opening up the kitchen and sunroom to create a more spacious open plan layout,' explains Aoife.

Living in a house in the town nearby, the couple spent around ten months refurbishing the interior, maintaining all the original period charm. The kitchen was one of the most important rooms and so one of the first areas the couple turned their attention to. 'I've always loved the Neptune kitchens and had some Neptune pieces from Deanery Furniture — a dresser and butcher's block—in the kitchen in our last house—so I knew I'd like to go with this brand for our kitchen and dining area. Without any need to shop around, we went back to Deanery Furniture where designer Mark Deane redesigned the room and came up with a fabulous new scheme.'

On an initial site visit, the couple's kitchen designer instantly recognised the potential of the room, suggesting that they create an opening between the kitchen and sunroom to create a sociable layout with kitchen and

dining space in one. 'The previous owners had added the sunroom to the back of the house but it was designed as a separate room. Mark was very helpful with a good eye for design and great taste so he gave us excellent advice. It made sense to open up the two rooms and he also made the point that we should make a feature of the bay window, which had been partially covered by a worktop with sink. He relocated the sink to the island and a window seat makes a lovely feature of the sash window with all its character and original shutters.'

Mark worked to certain limitations, designing a stunning new scheme around the inherited Aga range cooker to include a modified canopy hood, island and cabinetry to perfectly suit the proportions of the space. The Aga was originally cream so Aoife had it reconditioned and en-enamelled in black as a contrast to the Dove Grey kitchen furniture. 'I love the Neptune range, its look and colour options are so soft and muted, just the style I wanted to achieve. I love the signature Neptune look so much that I've chosen from their paint palette for all the other rooms in the house. Mark was fantastic to work with. As well as helping with colour schemes and getting our layout just right for the scale of the room, he also made us a radiator cover and supplied the paneling for the vaulted ceiling to complete the look.'

Above left: Joining the kitchen with the sunroom gives Aoife and Colin a more spacious and practical layout, with dining area Above Middle: A farmhouse style 60mm sink has been positioned in the island, freeing up the bay window as a charming architectural feature Opposite: Aoife's kitchen designer modified the Suffolf island to suit the scale of the room and to ensure adequate floor space





## THE AGA WAS ORIGINALLY CREAM SO AOIFE HAD IT RECONDITIONED AND EN-ENAMELLED IN BLACK AS A CONTRAST TO THE DOVE GREY KITCHEN FURNITURE



Did the existing Aga cooker restrict the design or layout? The range cooker dictated the overall layout so I balanced this with the eye level ovens and integrated fridge unit on the other side of the room. Working with the existing kitchen footprint in this beautiful period house was challenging and rewarding and the new kitchen furniture has been designed to suit the space really well. The Neptune Buckland hood needed to be modified to fit the wall above the Aga. We have our own workshop at Deanery Furniture so this gave us the freedom to make the necessary modifications.

Did Aoife know what she wanted in terms of style and layout? Style-wise, Aoife had a very clear idea of the type of kitchen she preferred. Having previously bought Neptune furniture, she was familiar with the range and wanted to achieve the Neptune look in both her kitchen and dining area. I came on board at the beginning of their refurbishment project, which gave the opportunity to suggest some layout alternations.

What structural changes have been made? As soon as I saw the original kitchen I knew there were two alternations that just had to be made to show the room in its best light. The first thing was to open up the beautiful old bay window, which had been partially covered by a worktop with sink and secondly I felt that opening the room into the sunroom would greatly enhance the space and introduce lots of natural light. One of the key areas was making the island work; Aoife really wanted an island but a standard depth unit would've been overpowering. I incorporated the Neptune Suffolk island but modified it in our workshop to achieve the right proportions. The base units to the left hand side of the Aga have also been modified to maximise floor space while continuing the theme of the rest of the cabinetry.

Mark Deane. Director, Deanery Furniture



Appliances: Neff appliances – B15M52 single oven, H12WE60 microwave, N14K30 domino induction hob, K8524XAGB 70/30 fridge freezer, S51M63 dishwasher, D5855X0GB canopy hood. Aga range cooker Fixtures & Fittings: Bespoke Suffolk kitchen by Neptune – handpainted in Dove Grey – from Deanery Furniture. Silestone work surfaces in Blanco River. Perrin & Rowe tap with hand rinse. Villeroy & Boch 600mm ceramic sink. Neptune Buckland cooker hood, modified to suit in the Deanery Furniture workshop. Wall paint in Neptune Limestone. Custom built radiator cover painted in Neptune Honed Slate. Neptune Crankbrook boarding on vaulted ceiling. Neptune furniture and accessories – Havanna dining chairs in Slate, Suffolk extending dining table, 3ft. Suffolk coat hook (used as a display shelf), Suffolk high back bar stools in seasoned oak, Tennyson lighting in kitchen, Belgravia nickel pendant lighting in dining area, Charlton vase, Burlington lamps, Ashby artichoke ornaments and Belmont storage jars. Floor tiles by Looby Tiles



## HEIGHT OF ELEGANCE

Peter and Bernadette have added a two-storey extension to give them a fabulous open plan kitchen with additional bedrooms upstairs

Photography Rory Corrigan

**Above:** The raised breakfast bar conceals the working side of the island – very handy when entertaining **Right:** The extra height cabinetry enhances the gracious proportions of the room to achieve an elegant and classic look





Location: Belfast A classic bespoke inframe kitchen, with extra height cabinetry, handpainted in Farrow & Ball Pointing with accents of burr oak, from The Design Yard The Design Yard: 32b Coalisland Road, Dungannon 028 8775 0005; 11-15 Erne Street Upper, Dublin 01 676 9511 thedesignyard.com

fter years of having a dark wood kitchen, Bernadette relished the idea of having a bright and spacious design with plenty of room for entertaining. 'Our previous kitchens were dark wood designs that made the room look gloomy at certain times of year. I loved the idea of a much brighter and more spacious layout. We have three teenagers so it was important that the kitchen have more than one eating area. We needed plenty of room for a dining table as well as a large breakfast bar with enough space for five,' says Bernadette.

Demolishing an old part of the house, Bernadette and Peter added a two-storey extension to accommodate their new open plan kitchen with additional bedrooms on the first floor. With the initial plans in place, the couple contacted Design Yard after admiring their kitchen designs in magazines and at shows. 'We were really impressed by the showroom and designer, Philip Patrick who showed us various designs and options,



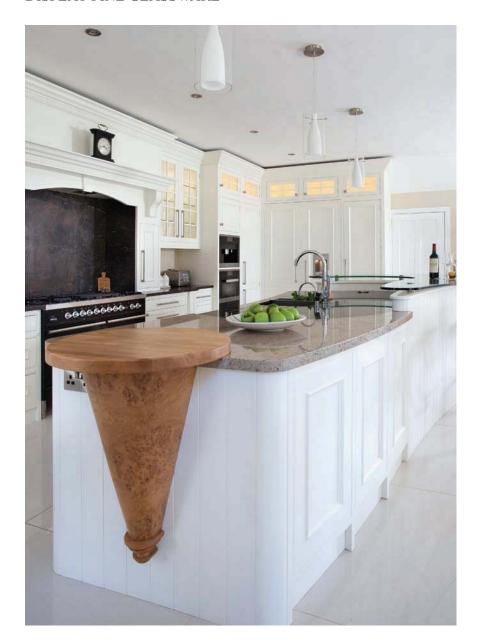
while also asking us lots of relevant questions to get a gauge of how we would live in and use our kitchen. It really made me think about storage options and how we would use the kitchen as a family on a daily basis.

Giving Philip the architectural plans proved very beneficial. 'Philip considered the entire space and layout and was very flexible in coming up with lots of ideas to ensure the extension reached its full potential. Some structural changes were made, such as removing a supporting column and replacing with a steel beam to avoid breaking the eye line when looking across the room. Philip also marked the position of refrigeration and food storage before the underfloor heating was laid to prevent heat affecting the performance of the fridge and freezer and to increase the lifespan of food in the larder. He paid great attention to detail which really paid off with a result we couldn't be happier with.'

Ensuring that the functional role of the kitchen was established, Philip focused on the visual appeal and has achieved an elegant scheme with an air of grandeur that really does the house justice. Extra tall units with cornicing to the ceiling celebrate the magnificent 10ft ceilings, with glazed sections of cabinetry providing the perfect place to store and display fine glassware.

In total contrast to their previous kitchens, Bernadette and Peter now spend more time in this room than any other area. 'We enjoy cooking and entertaining and just love this new space and everything it offers. We haven't had a coffee machine before so this is a novelty, which I absolutely love and the coffee is superb! From the kitchen furniture to the appliances and the island, there's nothing I would change - this room has been custom designed and suits us to a tee!'

EXTRA TALL UNITS WITH CORNICING TO THE CEILING CELEBRATE THE MAGNIFICENT 10FT CEILINGS, WITH GLAZED SECTIONS OF CABINETRY PROVIDING THE PERFECT PLACE TO STORE AND DISPLAY FINE GLASSWARE



What structural work has been carried and were any changes made to accommodate the new layout? My clients renovated their existing home and added a two-storey extension to create a large open plan kitchen/living/dining area with additional bedrooms above. I came on board early on in the project, which gave freedom in terms of design and layout and provided the opportunity to make structural amendments to maximise the layout of the room. At the first design meeting, I used our 3D software to show my clients how an obstructive column in the middle of the room would impact on their view and was able to contact the architect and engineers to explore the possibility of recessing a RSJ to overcome the problem of the column and achieve an uninterrupted view across the room

Did your clients have a specific brief or did this evolve during design meetings? This family of five including three teenagers requested a space where they could cook, entertain guests and dine at more than one area while being able to enjoy views of their garden and patio. The kitchen had to achieve a sense of grandeur; the room has 10ft ceilings and benefits from an abundance of natural light from south and west elevations so it's a light-filled space with generous proportions

What are the most notable design features? The classic design really comes into its own with the addition of the overhead glazed display cabinets. To ensure the bespoke inframe cabinetry was in proportion to the room, we designed the furniture extra tall with cornicing to the ceiling to enhance the feeling of space, height and drama. Accents of burn oak add to the luxurious finish with a conical support on the end of the island featuring a chopping block that's used for baking and holding the iPad when recipes are needed

Philip Patrick, Designer, The Design Yard



Appliances: Siemens appliances – IQ700 aCool larder fridge, IQ700 aCool larder freezer, IQ300 undercounter fridge, SN66T096GB fully integrated dishwasher. The Siemens aCool fridge and freezer are ideal for this classic kitchen style as they're discreetly concealed behind the cabinetry while providing the much used ice and water facility. Miele appliances – M6262TC micowave, ESW 6214 14cm warming drawer, H6260B single oven, DGC 6805 XL combi steam oven, CVA 6805 plumbed coffee machine. SPC700 built in extraction fan. Britannia Sigma 1200 gas and electric range cooker in black Fixtures & Fittings: A classic bespoke inframe kitchen, handpainted in Farrow & Ball Pointing with accents of burroak, from The Design Yard. Granite work surfaces – combination of Ice White and Brescia Imperiale from Elite Granite. Blanco Claron 550U sink with Blanco Eye tap. Quooker PRO-VAQ3 instant boiling water tap in chrome

# DÉCOR STYLE

COMPLETING YOUR LOOK WITH ON TREND ESSENTIALS AND FINISHING TOUCHES



Frank





he latest washing machines and dryers make light work of the laundry while also taking excellent care of your clothes. While there's nothing exactly glamorous about doing the laundry, we want the contents of our wardrobe to look good and stay in shape for as long as possible so it's important to find a machine with good garment care. These latest models have more scope and flexibility with increased programmes so you can tailor each load to suit your laundry pile. As well as garment care, efficiency is huge with the new generation of appliances using cooler water and less energy to wash and dry. Doing the laundry has never been more efficient!

#### Tips to help you make the purchase:

- •Lighten the Load a 6kg load should be adequate for a small family but an 8kg capacity is ideal for larger households
- Consider a washing machine with an intelligent sensor that will do the thinking for you. Electronic sensors detect the level of soiling so ensure that the right amount of water and detergent is used. This means spending a little more but will save you in the longrun
- Focus on the features you need. Do you have a lot of delicate garments or ones needing handwashing? If so, invest in a model that has programmes dedicated to silk and wool
- Do you suffer from allergies? Some new models have steam cleaning technology, where hot air is injected into the fabric for a more thorough clean, removing allergens such as mites and pollen

Opposite: The Gorenje A+++ rated W8543 Colour Edition washing machine and A++ rated D8565 Colour Edition dryer is available in a fabulous selection of colours to make a statement in kitchen or utility area. Available in white, black, stainless steel, red or eye-catching orange, these high-performance models feature SensorlO technology which automatically adjusts to deliver optimum results. £429/€575 Above left: Smeg's WMF147X freestanding washing machine is finished in stainless steel, holds a 7kg load and has an A+ energy rating. This model allows you to tailor your exact washing needs with a variety of programme options from temperature and spin speed to extra rinse. A superfast 15-minute programme washes small amounts of laundry fast and a mixed load function eliminates the need to sort laundry. The delay timer allows you to take advantage of off-peak energy tariffs and the night-time function reduces the speed of the drum to lower sound levels. Approx. £560 / €750 Above Right: Siemens stacked iDos WM14Y890GB washing machine and WT48Y800GB self-cleaning condenser tumble dryer. The precise automatic dosing system in the washing machine measures the detergent, saving time, energy and money. With sensor-controlled programmes, including a unique soiling detection sensor for automatically detecting the degree of soiling, it also has a stain removal programme for removing the 16 most stubborn stains. The tumble dryer has a generous 8kg capacity with varioPerfect for flexibly choosing either time or energy savings. Price on application



Top left: With a large 7kg capacity and an Energy Efficiency rating of A+++, the Neff W7460X0GB provides an array of indispensable features that will make laundry less of a chore and more of a pleasure. The different care programmes include a rapid 15 option, sports wash, sensitive wash and a hand wash and delicates cycle. This freestanding machine features a touch control panel, LED display and an extra large porthole with 130 degree opening for easy loading and unloading Top right: Revolutionary All in One Hoover washing machine safely mixes whites and coloured fabrics together in one wash. This model is available up to an 11kg capacity. This intelligent washer's unique Pulse technology means clothes can be washed at a low 20°C temperature whilst still enjoying the performance of a hotter, 40°C wash. £699/€935 Above Left: The Baumatic BWMI1472DN1 7kg integrated full height washing machine. Featuring 15 wash programmes, it has additional options including cold wash and allergy care. The energy-efficient cold wash function allows every programme to be transformed into cold washes without changing any other characteristics of the cycle, making this the best function for curtains, non-colour fast materials and delicate man-made fabrics. £500/€669 Above Right: Miele are pioneering a revolution in laundry care with the WI (WKB120) Washing Machine and TI (TKB340) Tumble Dryer. These appliances bring laundry care to a new level of sophistication with revolutionary CapDos, TwinDos and FragranceDos systems set to enhance laundry care results with targeted detergent and fragrance dispensing technology. Appliance performance innovations mean laundry is easier to manage and ironing time is reduced. Prices from £825/€1,099

FOR BUSY FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS, QUICK WASH PROGRAMMES ARE IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY IF YOU HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN. QUICK WASHES ARE TOP OF THE CONSUMER'S PRIORITY LIST AND IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO WASH A REDUCED LOAD IN JUST 15 MINUTES FOR WHEN A FAST TURNAROUND IS NEEDED.







oth contemporary kitchens and classic handpainted schemes have been longstanding favourites in the world of kitchen design. While there's no sign of either style dying off, there is however a fabulous newcomer which pretty much hits the nail on the head with a near-perfect balance between the two.

Both camps have come together to achieve all the clean lined chic of contemporary door design with the unique and bespoke detailing of a classic, solid wood handpainted kitchen. With minimal detail and an emphasis on pared back visuals, the new artisan door is handpainted in your chosen shade from your favourite colour palette. All the striking good looks of a Germanic interpretation with the traditional ethos and premium quality of classic joinery techniques and painted finishes, this has got to be a winning combination. On the façade, the doors are understated and blend almost seamlessly into their environment. Open the cabinetry and you have a whole new dimension with bespoke storage solutions designed to suit your individual needs.

Completing the look with statement hardware, choose bar handles to emphasize the linear format, statement knobs to add an individual touch or go handleless for the ultimate in minimal style. Choosing a painted finish opens up so many options in colour and all its combinations. Go for a subtly different tone for an island or choose a striking colour contrast along one wall of cabinetry to inject drama. Of course the beauty of this is, over time or as your tastes change, it can be repainted for a totally new look.

Opposite: This bespoke design by Dean Cooper & Company features cabinets in bookmatched oak veneer, contrasted with a section of matt black painted wall cabinetry for added drama. Teamed with a work surface, splashback, hob and tap all in black, it creates an almost hidden effect. Above left: Achieving a pristine and highly unusual finish, the two-tone cabinetry of this custom design by Wrights Design House has been inspired by the specific colours of car paint and finished in Lamborghini White and Porsche Seal Grey. Above right: Bespoke kitchen – handpainted in Farrow & Ball All White with island in Railings - finished with long bar handles, by Savvy Kitchens.





Top: The Limehouse collection from Neptune blurs the lines between modern and classic with a contemporary door painted in tones of Lily and Fog, finished with unique toggle handles to give an individual touch Above left: Bespoke kitchen – doors painted in Farrow & Ball Elephant's Breath (light tone) and Truffle wood grain (dark tone) with – by Johanna Montgomery Designs Above right: Bespoke kitchen from the Modern range at Beechview Interiors featuring a 22mm slab door painted in Farrow & Ball Pavilion Gray Opposite: This handpainted kitchen from Woodale Designs combined two door style – Shaker and handleless. Shaker cabinetry is painted in Little Greene French Grey, with handleless cabinetry finished in Farrow & Ball Skimming Stone

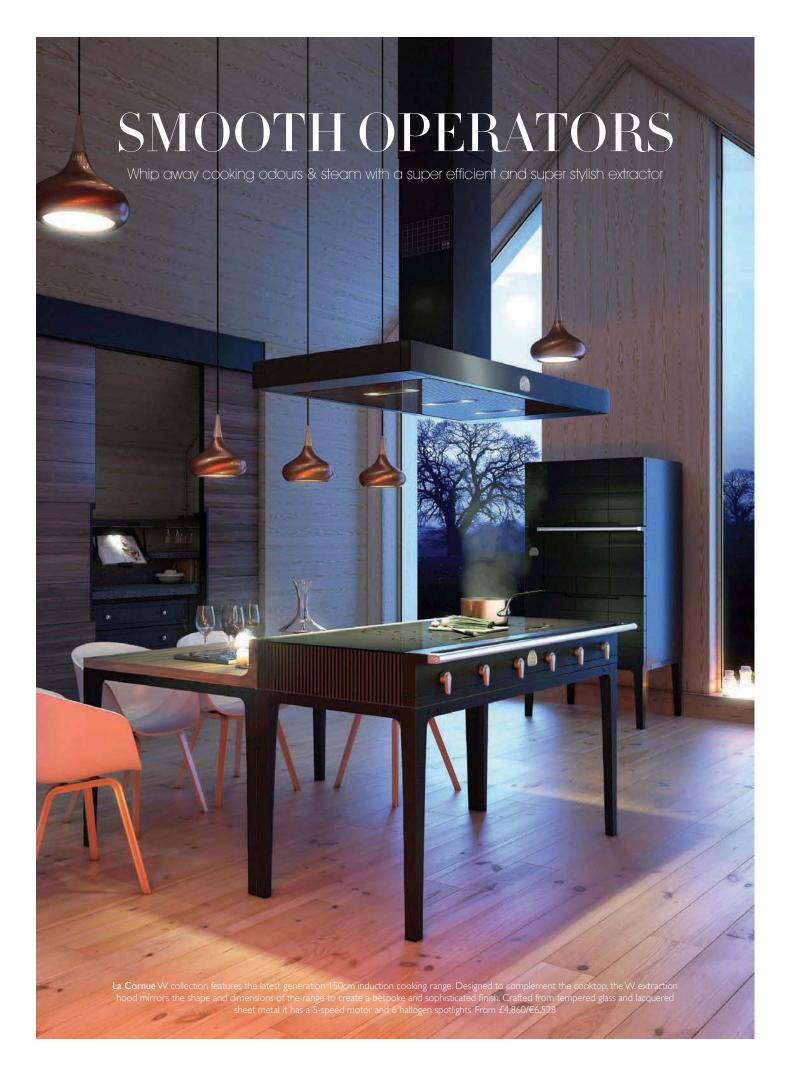


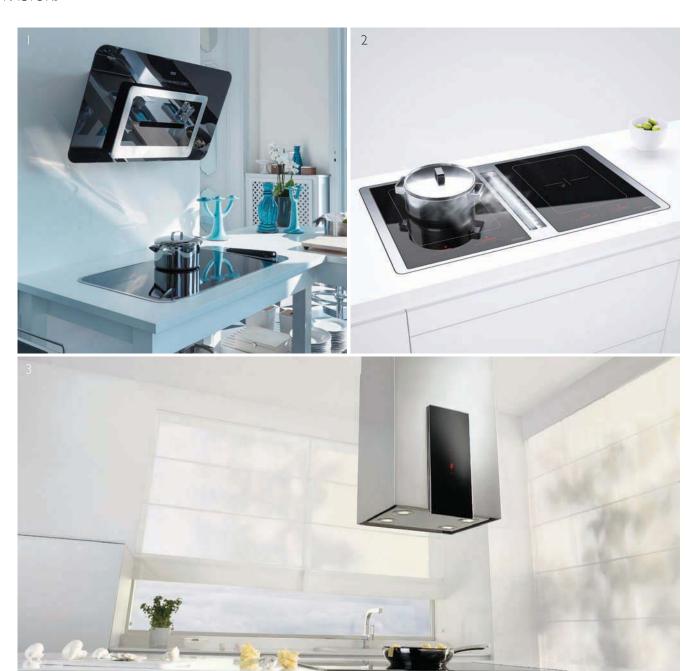
#### clever combos

complete your eye-level bank of appliances with one of these multi-tasking models



I Caple's new Sense Premium CM209WH combination microwave with a 34-litre capacity features six power levels and a thermostatic grill for precision grilling. An express microwave programme enables you to cook incredibly quickly at the touch of a button with eleven functions including fan heat, a turbo grill and timed defrost. 60 pre-set cooking recipes can be customised to achieve fantastic results. Approx. £1,179/€1,571 2 The BOC5322AX built-in combined microwave oven is part of the new Pure range from Gorenje. With an oven volume of 32 litres and microwave power of 1000W is has 6 power levels and clear LED touch control. £840/€1,122 3 The Neff C67P70 Series 5 multifunction oven with microwave is a very handy addition to your appliance collection. With microwave, microwave combination and multi-level cooking options, it has up to 70 different cooking programmes, making it a versatile and compact appliance to team with your existing oven or bank of appliances. Price on application 4 Complete your portfolio of Gaggenau built-in appliances with the 400 series combi microwave. Offering a combination of a microwave, a grill and an oven, it includes various modes of effortless operation. Featuring a handleless door,TFT touch display, and an interior capacity of 36 litres. Price on application. 5 The HB84E562B Compact 45 microwave combination oven forms part of the Siemens iQ500 Series. With 7 main functions as well as pre-set automatic cooking, defrosting and a combination programme, simply select the food type, enter the weight and the oven will do the rest! Price on application 6 This built-in Miele H6500BM MTouch combi microwave can do everything from heating a quick ready meal to roasting a joint of meat. Operating using intuitive SensorTronic controls, its 9 oven functions and 4 microwave combi programmes give flexibility. £2,349/€3,100





ith the trend for open plan living set to stay, the importance of a whisper quiet and competent extraction system has never been greater. Homeworks are done, TVs are watched and dinner parties are enjoyed all in this one fabulously sociable open plan room for all the family. So, with so much more going on than simply cooking and eating, it's important that the air is clean and fresh. There's nothing worse than stale cooking smells and steamy windows! Kitchen design and layout plays a key role in the type of extractor chosen. With islands being a popular spot for hobs, the popularity of the downdraft extractor has also risen. Fitting flush into the work surface, this innovative design maintains a clear line of vision across the room. On the other hand though, ceiling mounted hoods are also popular as a statement sculptural design in a room.

Cooker hood features to look out for include turbo or intensive settings,

which are particularly useful when extra fast extraction is needed. Also look for perimeter extraction panels, which will not only help to increase the efficiency of your appliance but also help to reduce sound levels, too.

The extraction level you require will depend upon the size of the room - so the larger your kitchen the more powerful your extractor will need to be. To estimate the power of extraction you need in your kitchen, simply calculate the volume of the space by multiplying the length, width and height in metres and then multiplying by ten. You will also need to calculate the distance to the outside wall outlet if ducting the hood out.

Style should always be as important as functionality in the cooker hood you choose, so look for elegant models in colours, finishes and designs that will either blend with your existing cooking appliance, such as your hob or range cooker, or make a standalone statement to create a focal point in your cooking zone.

I Franke's new Sinos FSN 908 BKA hood combines a sophisticated mix of stainless steel and black glass with premium extraction. Designed as the perfect complement to the Sinos sink and tap range, this hood mirrors their elegant curves. This A rated hood has 8 operating speeds, starting at a pleasingly low-level 42 decibels up to 64 decibels, plus an 'intense' setting for short, powerful bursts to remove unpleasant odours quickly and efficiently. £1,549 / €2,080 2 This award winning system is perfect for open-plan living and ideal for keeping sightlines clear. The Abajo from Blanco sits flush to the worktop and siphons steam and cooking odours swiftly away. You can buy the extractor on its own and have it fitted adjacent to any built-in hob, or you can buy it as a complete modular system, which includes the extractor and the choice of one, two or three hob options – wok induction, regular induction and teppanyaki modules. From £3,150 / €4,230 3 The DQ4446X-UK wall mounted cooker hood from Gorenje has a touch control setting, maximum extraction rate of 680m3/hr and a maximum noise level of 61dB. £599/ €805 This Page: Finished in a sleek combination of black glass and stainless steel, Smeg's KDD90VX is ideal for central island units as it fits flush with the work surface when not in use for a seamless aesthetic. When in use, the extractor rises from the work surface until it reaches a height of 406mm. Featuring an electronic display, it's fitted with a 6W LED to provide additional light when cooking. Approx £1400/€1,880





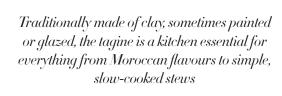
1 The DD910WH from Caple has a unique white glass finish. It simply rises from the work surface into a vertical position accompanied by a neon strip light when in use. Caple's signature perimetrical extraction lowers sound levels further and increases the pressure resulting in improved motor performance. It features illuminated touch controls with 4 speeds, has 6 motor options and an auto timer, which ensures extraction continues up to 10 minutes after you've finished cooking. From £2,100/€2,820 2 Brand new from CDA, the 3B10BL glass shelf extractor makes quite a statement above any hob. With 4 speeds, a 10 minute timer and easily removable, dishwashable grease filters, this model is suitable for ducted or recirculating installation. It has an efficient extraction rate of 900m3/hr. £595/€758 3 The stainless steel Overside hood from Best features cutting edge technology including Advanced Sensor Control, which detects smoke, steam and vapours and switches on automatically. A 4-speed model, it comes with electronic soft touch controls and quietly purifies the air while providing ambient lighting. From £1,899/€2,550







one pot wonders





I Emile Henry Tagine Noir from Occa-Home. Made in France, this design can be used in the oven and on the hob and can also go from oven to freezer or microwave. £79/€102 2 Channel Moroccan style with the World Food tagine from Sainsburys. £20/€25 3 A smaller version of the Emile Henry Noir, this red 1.5 litre version is available from Amara. £59/€76 **4** Medium sized clay tagine from **Jasmine** Way has been handmade in French Basque Country from local clay. £76/€98 5 Ceramic and cast iron tagine from Sainsburys. The distinctive conical lid allows steam to circulate above slow-cooked food, re-condense and trickle back into the pot for a juicy, tender result. £45/€58 6 A keenly priced option for cooking stews and casseroles, this terracotta tagine is from Tesco Direct. £15/€19 7 The Royal VKB slow-cooker in terracotta and china from The Design Gift Shop - place ingredients in base, pop in the oven and your work is done! £59/€76 8 From oven to table, serve up a romantic meal for two in this Le Creuset heart-shaped stoneware casserole dish. £49/€63 **9** This cast iron shallow casserole dish from Marks & Spencer is another great option for ensuring even heat distribution. Suitable for ovens and hobs. £45/€58 10 Another alternative to the Moroccan tagine is this Linea 21cm cast iron casserole dish from House of Fraser, also great for cooking one pot



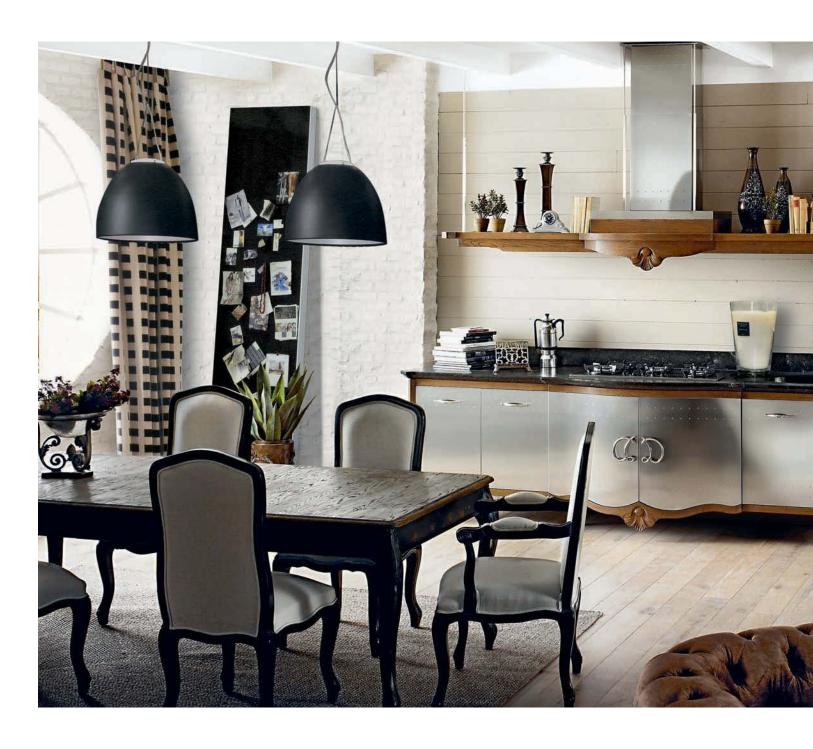


stews slowly in the oven. £35/€41









#### DECORATIVE DETAIL

The creative balance between elements of nature and innovative design solutions are the keynotes in this impeccable kitchen with decorative yet strong lines

Photography Marchi Cucine





esigned by Italian company, Marchi Cucine, this project is an example of the Dechora collection. The inspiration behind this design was to create an interior scheme for a family who wish to blend sophistication and elegance with functionality and low maintenance appeal.

As kitchens become less and less stereotypical in their form, the importance of function remains key. In an era where open plan living is by far taking over from compartmentalized spaces, the concept of the kitchen blending almost seamlessly into surrounding lounges and dining spaces has become increasingly significant. While subtle zoning between kitchen, living and dining areas is popular, so too is the notion of continuity and harmony, where one open space shares a central theme of colour or style.

Where dining furniture, sofas and kitchens share one space, a coherent scheme ensures that the kitchen sits effortlessly in the space, furnishing and enhancing the room as well as providing a functional cooking and prepping area. Rather than taking the form of a functional design, the Dechora heightens the feeling of elegant design in the room, adding charm and sophistication.

A custom-made exclusive design, Dechora rediscovers the appeal of small gestures by highlighting and combining materials such

as solid wood, decorated and satin-finished steel and marble used for the work surfaces. Metal plays a large part in this kitchen design, with a touch of surprise in the combination of sleek modern elements with retro taste of the upholstered pieces and classical dining chairs.

Sinuous lines and exclusive detailing such as the crafted handles all blend to enrich the unusual style of this kitchen with cabinets and elements in solid oak contrasting with the dramatic black marble counter top. Door fronts with studded detailing and handles in britannium conceal a large pantry incorporating a refrigerator and raised level oven, all set inside a solid oak frame.

marchicucine.com





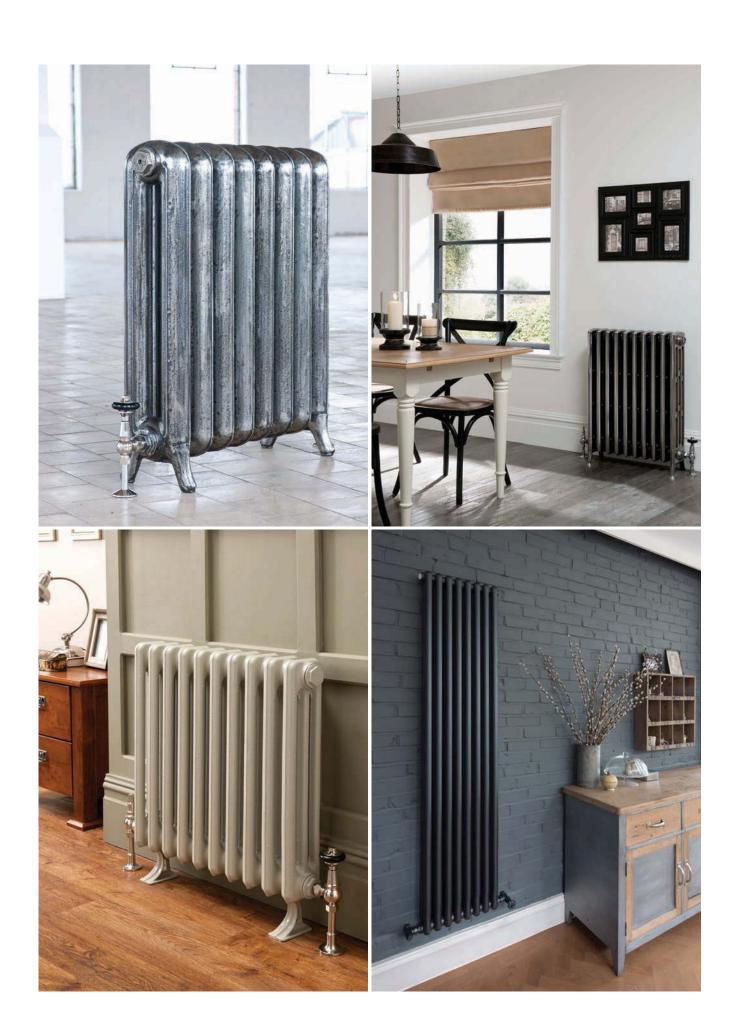
he once humble radiator has made giant leaps in design, catapulting this essential household appliance from nondescript, even ugly to a thing of sculptural beauty. No longer are radiators just about heating a space, they're about enhancing a scheme, introducing a focal point, adding a decorative feature.

Tall Order: For contemporary interiors, tall vertical designs are very popular. With their ultra slim profile and clean lines, these can blend almost seamlessly on a wall or add colour contrast, depending on the finish. This design is a great option where space is limited or where you want to achieve a minimalist scheme with a linear look. Match it to your wall colour for a subtle effect or go for a contrasting tone to make it a feature in its own right. Black, charcoal or grey add a sense of drama while chrome and white are a popular safer option.

Old-School Style: For a timeless look in a classic or period style home, old-school cast iron styles are big news. Painted in a muted tone in keeping with existing décor, these handsome designs are right at home in a wood panelled hallway or spacious living room with bay windows and corniced ceilings. Chunky and traditional with the option of decorative enamelling, these repro models can also look amazing in a contemporary setting where you can appreciate the juxtaposition of old and new. Think loft style interiors or industrial themed spaces - the addition of a cast iron radiator, broad enough to sit on, will add to the authenticity and raw appeal. For the real thing, try salvage yards for restored cast iron originals. Having said this, the repro models available today are very authentic looking and highly efficient.

- Calculate the heat output measured in British Thermal Units per hour (BTU/h) – required within each room. A Gas Safe Register plumber or heating engineer is best qualified to work this out for you, however online BTU calculators will help to give an indication
- Radiators should be placed in the coldest part of the room, usually below or adjacent to a window and/or on an outside wall, as cold air pushes heat around the room
- · Radiators are typically between 300-700mm high and 500-3,000mm in length. As a general rule, the larger the size, the greater the heat output. If, however, you're stuck for space or simply prefer to be without radiators, skirting heating is a discreet, space-saving alternative to traditional radiators
- · Cast iron is a traditional choice, particularly when specified for column radiators. Unlike aluminium, this material takes its time to warm up, but will hold onto heat long after being turned off. It is also a heavyweight option, so ensure your floor/wall is structurally sound

Opposite: A super flat vertical design with clean lines and purity of form, the Ceylon in black from Hudson Reed has strong visual appeal that will really come into its own in a contemporary interior.  $\pounds920/€1,230$  Above left: Inspired by fabric and texture, Quilt is the latest must-have radiator from Vogue (UK). Its tactile quilted stainless steel finish will make an eye-catching feature in any room. Available in three sizes. From £1,416/€1,894 Above Right: The subtle Diapason vertical design from Aestus complements a minimalist aesthetic with its elegant 16mm tubes. Diapason comes in white and is available in three different widths measuring 300 mm, 450 mm and 600 mm. Each model had a height of 1800 mm and a depth of 49 mm. From £185/€247







XD Design Tower pepper mills, The Design Gift Shop. £34/€43



French flair - Cruet Set, Boutique Provencale. £26/€33



Large bottle sized grinders, Menu. £33/€42

# daily grind

 $complete \ your \ table \ setting \ with \ super \ stylish \ salt \ and \ pepper \ mills$ 



Light Bulb shakers, The Gift Oasis. £10/€13



Silver-plated conch and cone salt &pepper set, Annabel James. £33/€42



Salt and pepper mills, in stainless steel, Georg Jensen Alfredo. £68/€87 each



Conran salt and pepper mill set, Marks & Spencer. £29/€38



Nick Munro large spheres salt and pepper mills, LuxDeco. £70/€89 for a pair



Mills with rank handle and wooden caddy, Sebastian Conran £50/€64

## DÉCORLIVING

EXPERT INTERVIEWS, INSPIRATIONAL IDEAS, FOOD TO COOK & PLACES TO GO



evolV elli







#### mixing MATERIALS

Design longevity is in demand so choosing the right materials and knowing how to mix them up is key. Get back to basics with the raw and durable appeal of wood and stone





COINS

CRS

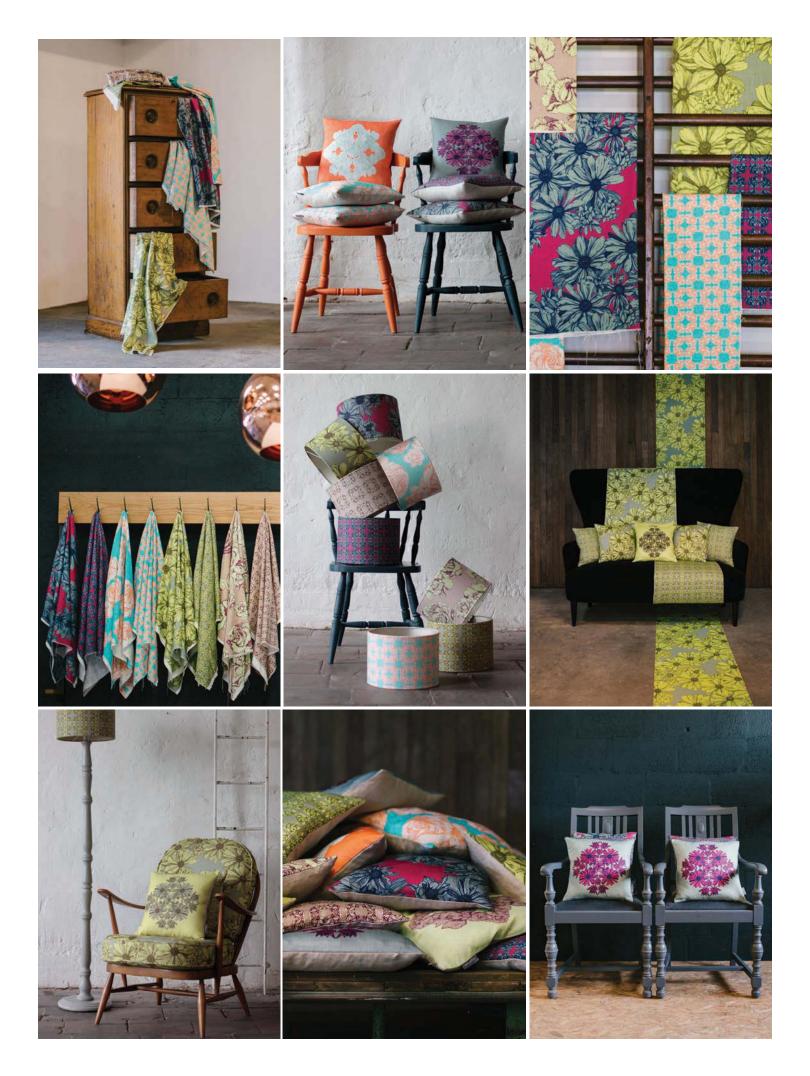
KEYS





I Salina beveled marble tiles from the Earthworks collection by Original Style. The veining effect in marble occurs naturally to give each piece its unique appeal. £110/€130 per sq m 2 Shore Driftwood drum side table with glass top from Alexander & Pearl will add texture and natural appeal to your living space. £245/€314 3 Stone effect resin Ox head wall hanging from Alexander & Pearl will make a beautiful decorative feature in any room. £175/€224 4 Combining wood and marble, this Conran pestle and mortar set from Marks & Spencer would look great resting on a rustic kitchen shelf. £45/€58 5 Rational's Cosmo and Cult ranges have been combined here in new white glazed oak veneer and Brazil glazed oak veneer. Prices start at around £10,000/€12,800 6 Lapicida's marble Refectory table merges industrial chic with traditional styling. A strong weathered oak base is paired with white Italian Carrara marble. From £2,950/€3,782 7 Vintage decorative coffee grinder from Dotcomgiftshop. (This item is for decorative purposes only). £13/€16 8 Designed in beautiful natural wood with limed effect finish, these coin and key boxes from The Contemporary Home are stylish and practical! £5/€6.50





# flower power

Décor catches up with Abigail and Ryan Bell, founders of Belfast based abigail\*ryan homeware

The past five years have been quite a whirlwind for the abigail\*ryan empire. What has been your greatest achievement to date? Yes, we've been very lucky to have such great things happen to the business in our first five years, it's certainly kept us busy! I think our greatest achievement to date is having one of the wallpapers from our debut collection acquired by the Cooper-Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum in New York, and placed in their permanent collection. It's the most important collection of wallcoverings in the United States, and Ryan is the first Irish designer in the collection, so that was a huge high for us.

Tell us about your collaboration with Jo Malone. We were approached back in 2012 by staff at Jo Malone London, and invited to attend a business meeting to discuss a possible collaboration opportunity for the following year. When we met (at a gorgeous breakfast meeting in Claridges!) we were told a bit more about the project... Jo Malone London had recently brought on board Charlotte Stockdale, who is a world renowned fashion stylist and editor, appointed as the new Style Editor. She had been scouring the country for some of the best young design talent to work with on some one-off and limited edition projects, and we had made the short-list to be interviewed. Thankfully, the whole team loved our designs and we set to work with Charlotte, and the rest of the creative team, designing limited edition textile goods for 'Charlotte's Corner' which was a bespoke pop-up Boutique at Selfridges London and Manchester Exchange - the first in a new wave of exciting collaborations for the brand. We used the iconic fragrance

'Red Roses' as the inspiration and we had one of my hand illustrated roses screen-printed onto black Irish linen cushions, scented sachets and perfume pouches. Each piece had hand couched neon pink cord sewn on.... which took hours of careful hand-sewing, but perfectly matched the limited edition paint splattered bottle Charlotte had designed. It was a great project and a collaboration we're really proud of.

Having your designs on display in Liberty London is quite an accolade. What other stores are selling your homeware ranges? We were very lucky to have our first collection picked up by Liberty when we attended their open call for designers back in 2011. We went on to design a limited edition run of Heirloom Patchwork quilts made from Irish linen, which sold in the store in the following years as well. We have also had our work sold in Fenwick's of Bond Street and Terrain in the United States. We spent most of last year restructuring

our business slightly - once we brought in wallpaper and fabric - to tailor more to interior designers, so we took a break from retail trade shows and focused on opening accounts throughout the country and placing our books and studio boxes with interior design studios. We sell our wallpaper through wallpaperdirect.com online which is a fantastic source when you're looking to find that perfect paper! Additionally, we actually opened our first concession store, inside Atelier-Design in Belfast, in November last year. That was a big step for us, and we're really excited to have a city centre presence in Belfast.



Congratulations on the opening of the new concession store! Has this always been the dream to have your own outlet to display the entire abigail\*ryan collection? Yes, I think it probably has. We looked to people who built brands from having shops early on in their careers, such as Neisha Crosland and Cath Kidston and were excited about the prospect of being able to present the whole 'abigail\*ryan aesthetic' together as one cohesive vision. Opening a concession is a fantastic first start and we couldn't be in a better or more beautiful space in Belfast than with Victor and James at Atelier-Design, and hopefully that will go from strength to strength and one day we might even have our first flagship stand-alone store!

Your signature style is organic and nature-inspired. How do you both decide / agree on each design? Usually, I've spotted a flower or plant that really appeals to me, or has caught my eye when we're out photographing source material. It sparks something, usually in both of us, about the direction the pattern might take, or what colourway could look great. Once the drawings are created, we always turn them in to a pattern or product... they're very time consuming, so we usually know in advance it's a subject matter we're both on board with!

As a husband and wife design duo, how do you balance home life with running your business together? I'm not sure we balance it very well! The house could always use a good tidy and there

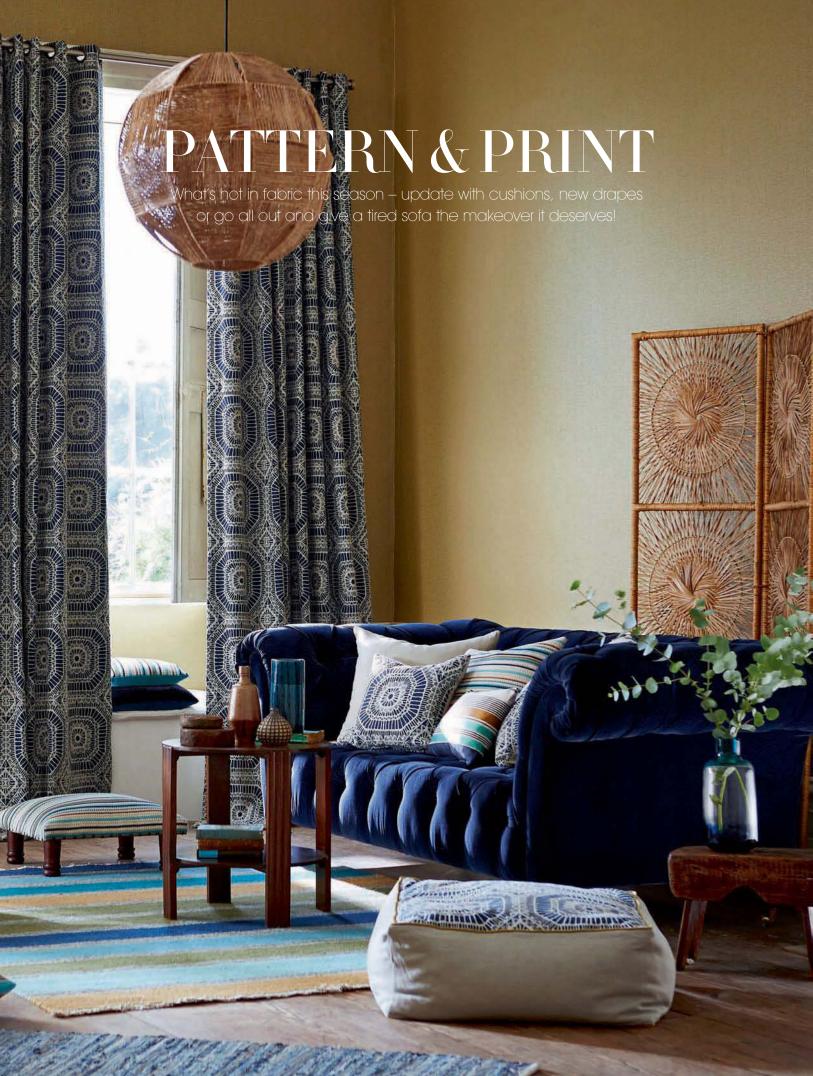
> are usually dishes needing done (!) but we spend a lot of time at work, so that comes first. Thankfully, we really love what we do and it's a fantastic blessing to be able to spend all day every day with your spouse, so we never feel like we're sacrificing 'us' time, and it's good to not be separated too often. Occasionally, though, if we're feeling burnt out, we'll make sure to take some time out and go for a meal or date night or take the weekend off. That's a big one for us in terms of finding some balance. But really, there's never enough hours in the day, or enough hands on deck. We could do with a few staff members and a housekeeper, and then, I think things might feel well balanced!

> I remember your first designs were the most exquisite linen tea towel designs. How have you diversified/evolved the collection? Since our very first line of tea-towels, we have released another line and added napkins as well to extend the kitchen linens. We have also launched our own range of fabric yardage, wallpaper and co-ordinating cushions and we recently launched luxury scented candles

(our first two scents in our new Home Fragrance line) and Heirloom lambswool blankets, which have been flying out of the shop! We're always looking to add new product lines and extend the range - designing products is a really fun part of the job.

What's next for Abigail Ryan? What should we be looking out for in 2015? We're just in the initial stages of designing our next collection, and we're planning to release a couple of new prints. We're also hoping to add a few new colourways to the existing wallpapers... the first samples are in and they're looking gorgeous. We also have a lovely project with Annie Sloan being released over the coming months, and on a personal level, we're heading to New York in March to visit our wallpaper in the museum, so that's incredibly exciting as neither of us have ever been before. We can't wait to get inspired by such a vibrant city!

abigailryan.com





Opposite: Harlequin has launched Artisan Embroideries, an enchanting and chic collection that captures the essence of homespun style. Offering 6 designs in 23 colourways, curtains illustrated in Macrame in Indigo, a lacy medallion pattern in neutrals on a coloured background. £69/€92 per metre **Top left:** Available in a variety of on-trend colourways, from pastel pinks and sky blues to soft mint and grey tones, this Serenity fabric from **Barker & Barker** is perfect for creating a spring-inspired scheme. £39 / €52 per metre Top right: Texture and contrast give Zoffany's Jaipur Weaves collection its distinctive look.The chair is upholstered in Pulu, a woven design on linen, inspired by an original document depicting Persian polo players. Approx £82/€110 per metre. The sofa is covered in Chirala, a two space dyed yarn with a metallic thread to achieve a modern, textured stripe. Approx. £114/€152 per metre Above left: Baya is the newest addition to the design portfolio of artisan producers Rapture & Wright, available from Thompson Clarke Interiors. Available in 8 colourways, shown in Deepest Indigo. £84/€112 per metre Above right: Canevas is an original contemporary embroidery on a shantung silk from French design house, **Elitis**. Available in 5 colours, shown in LY76389. Approx £250/€334 per metre



Left to Right: Add a feminine feel to your living space with these floral-inspired, hand illustrated linen cushions from abigail\*ryan. Designs include Rose Florimetric, Rose Windrose and Rose Garden, all in Powder Puff colourway. £65 / €87 each; The combination of vibrant yellow against a muted background works to beautiful effect in the new Avebury collection from Villa Nova. From £47/€63 per metre; Part of the James Hare 150th Anniversary Collection launched at Maison & Objet 2015, chair upholstered in Richmond Velvet Medici (£65/€87 per metre) and curtain in Crystal Amethyst (£70/€94 per metre); Deer Damask by Barneby Gates at Thompson Clarke Interiors. Stags heads and thistles make a statement in this damask style repeat, printed on natural un-dyed linen cotton. Shown in Duck Egg, Claret and Gold. £48/€64 per metre

room can be completely transformed just by changing the fabrics and nothing else. With so many factors to consider when decorating a room, often the more obvious elements such as furniture, flooring and wall colour can leave fabric choices well down the list. Choosing curtains, cushions and upholstery is one of the most fun parts of completing a room, adding colour, texture and tone to achieve a harmonious look. Fabric gives the freedom to make a statement without breaking the bank or being set in stone. As seasons change, you can update a room by the simple and relatively inexpensive addition of some contrasting cushions to give your sofa a new dimension.

In contemporary schemes, there is often the temptation to leave windows undressed, avoiding blinds or curtains, which can be misinterpreted as fussy. Fabric doesn't have to be distracting though; even in the most contemporary schemes, a simple, muted linen can really enhance the composition of your overall look. If you do prefer to avoid window treatments, then why not add texture and contrast in upholstery? Rescue



an unloved old chair, reupholster in a choice fabric and you've created your own bespoke statement piece. Whether your fabric choices are for drapes, chairs or sofas, there are a few important things to bear in mind to help you get it right.

Pastel & Muted Tones: Bright colour and pattern isn't for everyone so, if you're firmly fixed on a soft palette, try pale greys or mink tones and mix it up with candyfloss pinks, mint greens or powder blues

The Classic Stripe: A simple stripe is a great go-to design that will work effortlessly in pretty much any setting. This timeless pattern will look great on curtains or even a sofa, such as the Serenity collection from Barker & Barker. When in doubt, a stripe is often a great choice and works well as a base for a mix and match scheme

50s Feel: Nostalgic retro prints never really go out of style. Geometric

designs and bold colour are great ways of adding a funky feel to a kitchen or living space. Have some fun with your kitchen window and choose a bold print for a roller blind or jazz up a neutral living room with some show-stopping curtains

Botanical Inspired: Bring the outdoors in and create an uplifting look with feminine florals. A large leafy print or a more delicate design in a vibrant colourway will instantly inject an airy springtime feel. The Batik Garden collection from Sanderson is a stunning example that looks stunning in a crisp white theme with accent tones carried though

Statement Style: Your interior should ideally reflect your personality so choose one standout fabric as a total contrast to the rest of the room. The Jaipur Weaves collection from Zoffany features Persian polo players - a striking and unusual design that can be teamed with patterns and plains to achieve an eclectic feel



### on the shelf

 $stylish\ storage\ for\ your\ open\ plan\ living\ space,\ multi-tasks\ to\ furnish\ and\ accessorise$ 



I Based on a Chinese food storage cabinet, this model from Shimu features bevelled glass panels rather than traditional lattice doors. £995/€1,312 2 Nail the utilitarian trend with this Industrial Chic Narrow bookcase with cupboard from Hampshire Furniture. £469/€618 3 Chichester 3ft, original bookcase from Neptune features elegant cornicing and adjustable shelving. £1,150/€1,950 4 These Contrast shelves in oak from made.com would look good as a room divider in an open plan layout. £379 / €499 5 The Highbury shelving unit from Alexander & Pearl is made from iron and wood. £495/€653 6 April, May and June bookcases from Bonaldo at **Go Modern** are quirky shelving styles that resemble the silhouettes of super-sized perfume bottles. From £670/€883-£720/€949 7 The King Crate Mate shelf from Loaf is a striking addition to any living space. £495/€653

#### 2015 is the year of... COLOUR

Sara Thompson of Thompson Clarke Interiors on this year's top trends









As interior designers, we take inspiration from the world around us, from the magazines we read, the food we eat and the holidays we enjoy, however a trip to the major interior design trade shows is what really gets our creative juices flowing. In January, we travelled to Paris

for the 'Maison et Objet' show to soak up some of the latest looks; from bedding to tableware, furniture

to accessories and everything in between, the key interior looks for the year ahead were out in force. This year it was as impressive as ever and full to the rafters of the most envyinducing products imaginable. (We even managed to select a few accessories for our showroom which we will also be selling via our new website this spring, so keep an eye out!)

this spring, so keep an eye out!)
So, whilst we're brimming full of fresh new ideas, we thought it would be worth sharing with you a few of our favourite picks. Here's our take on the top trends that you won't want to miss out on this year.

1 If you're a dedicated fashion follower then this season is unlike no other as the cross over between the catwalk and the home is more prominent than ever – whether it's tassles or pompoms, fringing or damask, these trends work on clothes or cushions!

2 2015 is the year of colour! As advocates of colour, our advice is, don't be afraid of it. Whether it's Greekinspired blues or pops of shocking pink, there are so many ways that it can be used in the home. If you're wary of making your home look too bright, then use

bright hues for your cushions or artwork and stick to softer shades for sofas and walls. This colour scheme is a great example – the soft mole walls and aqua damask curtains work perfectly alongside one another.

3 There is a texture reformation upon us... The key to using texture and pattern cleverly is to mix them up. To add drama, offset vivid patterns and colours against darker walls. There is a real trend right now to maximize contrasting textures too, such as highly polished metals like copper alongside a delicately coloured linen.

4 Botanical prints are very current and are getting even more tropical! Look out for leafy prints including

animals, grasses and fields of flowers. If you're after an easy update for a room, then use

a botanical wallpaper alongside plain furniture or accessories – it works very well in small rooms such as downstairs lavatories too!

5 Gemstone colours are in high demand this year such as ruby reds, petrol blues, emerald green and sapphire blue. Think Santorini chic with crystal blue sea and a bright emerald sky.

6 Aboriginal art is a popular theme across furniture and fabrics right now. Whilst it is a bold trend, its influence will

filter down to smaller hand picked pieces, such as cushions, rugs and decorative items. Pierre Frey uses the trend beautifully throughout its new 'Origines' Collection, which comprises embroidered fabrics, prints and jacquards.

7 Stick to your instinct. A final thought – whilst it is exciting to be 'on trend', what's most important is to choose looks that you love and make you feel at home. Certain styles will never date – take, for example, the new folk' range of fabrics from Mark Alexander – beautiful washed out linens that would work in any sitting room or bedroom – effortlessly chic.

thompsonclarke.com







2015'S HOTTEST COLOURS; TOBACCO, CORAL, FLAMINGO PINK, SMOKEY GREY, EMERALD BLUE

As advocates

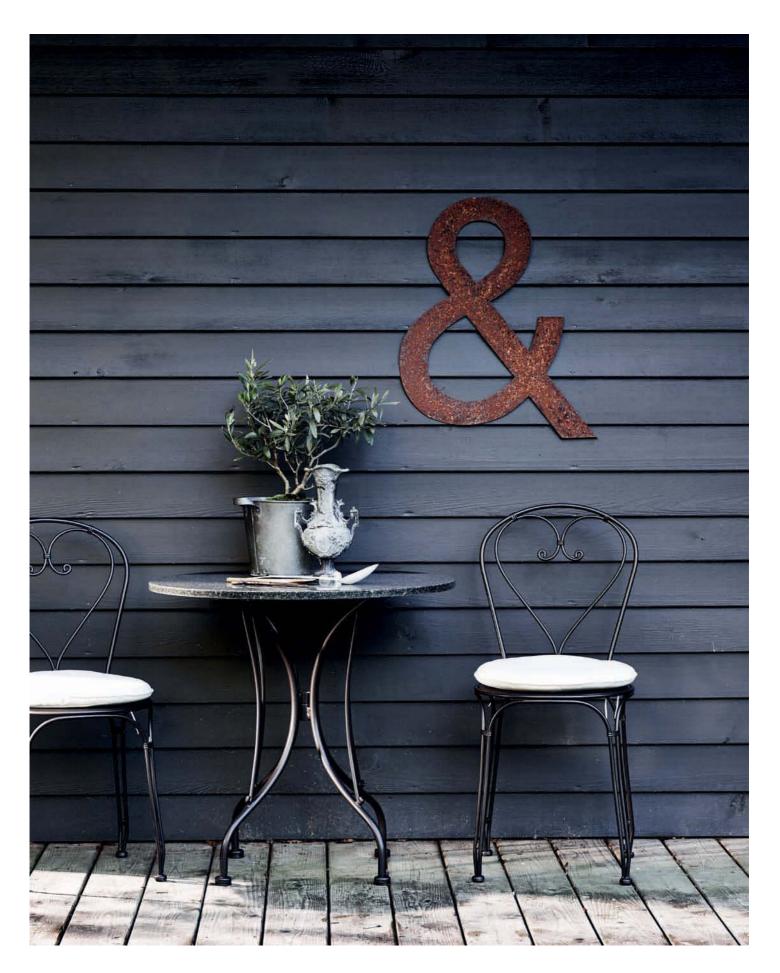
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### WE LOVE...









# the LUES

from inky hues to vibrant cobalt, blue is one of 2015's noteable colour trends

I Sumi I 10887 wallpaper, part of the Momentum collection from **Harlequin** is a large scale, brushed geometric with an abstract, oriental feel. £59/€77 per roll 2 Bring traditional design to any room with this Iznik cushion from Andrew Martin, available exclusively at Amara. £112/€147 3 Chandelier shown painted in Farrow & Ball Pitch Blue Estate Eggshell. £53/€69 for 2.5 litres 4 Complete a vibrant, colour-clash scheme with the multi-coloured Katell Bougie lamp with light blue shade from **Design 55 Interiors**. £263/€347 5 Create your own azure horizon with this dip dye ombre blue wallpaper from **Décor Wallpaper**. £40/€53 per roll 6 The Arabia Tuokop 26cm plate in cobalt blue from Cloudberry Living is dishwasher, oven, freezer and microwave safe. £23/€30 7 Bubble glass tumbler in dark







### DAILY INSPIRATION

the latest kitchen & interior trends online



## decor-living.com











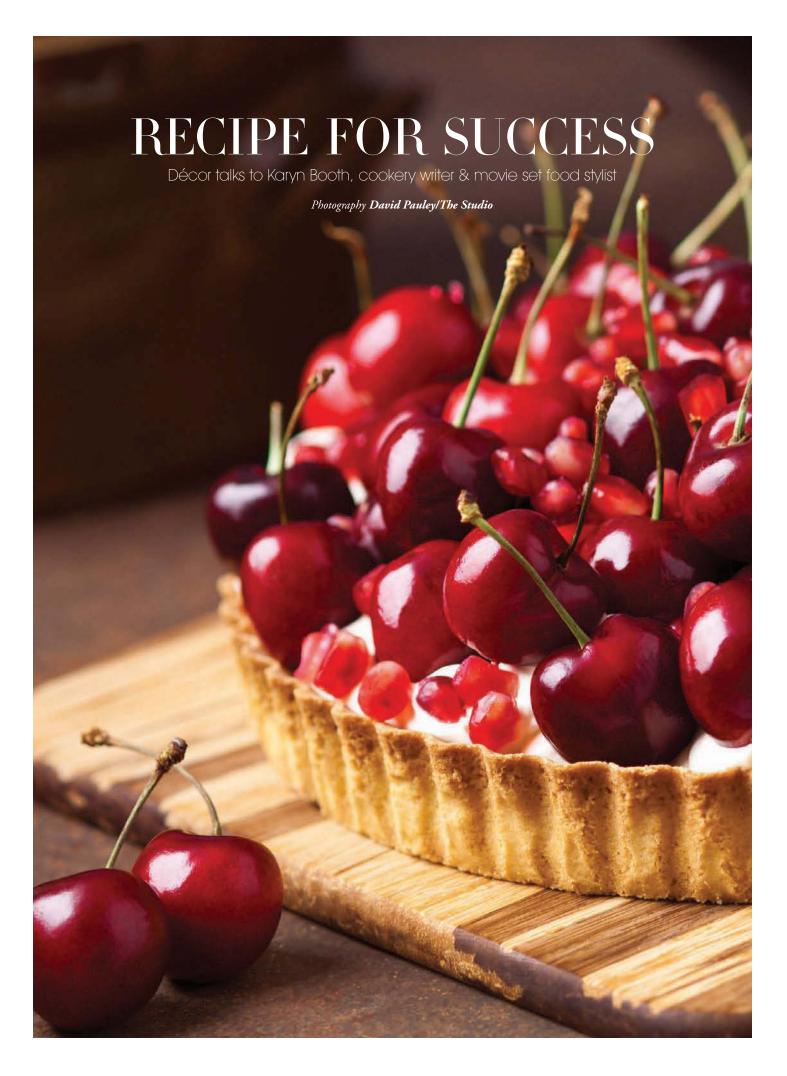




### read all about it

stash your favourite magazines in one of these stylish holders

I News basket – magazine and newspaper basket holder from Idyll Home. £29/€36 2 Perfect for a contemporary scheme, this Ben de Lisi wire cityscape magazine rack is available from Debenhams. £30/€38 3 Channel an artisan look with this rattan magazine storage from Laura Ashley. £45/€56 4 Keep it classic with tan leather – the Marlborough storage basket from Leather & Lavender is also great for storing logs. £110/€138 5 The Burlington tan leather magazine hamper from Artisanti will add a luxury look to your living space. £144/€180 6This orange magazine rack from Stuff of Dreams will look its best in a contemporary, minimalist setting. It will hold up to eight magazines comfortably, £21/€28 7 Complete a geometric theme with Ferm Living's smoked oak magazine rack from Cloudberry Living. £37/€46 8 Leather magazine holder in orange, handmade in France for Amara. Lined in felt and finished with durable handle. £217/€274 9 Sorting Office wire magazine rack from Dotcomgiftshop. £25/€31



What sparked your passion for food, cooking and creativity? I've always had a love for cooking and baking from a very young age. When anyone was cooking, I'd seize the opportunity, drag a kitchen chair over to the cooker and clamber up to see what they were making. My mum bought me a Jane Asher novelty cake-making book when I was about 13 and that was it, I think I baked every cake in it. I knew exactly what I wanted to do when I left school and my dream job was to be a pastry chef in a fancy hotel in London.

Tell us about your time in London After studying baking and patisserie, I got a job with Selfridges in London before landing my dream job at The Ritz Hotel. The Ritz had a huge kitchen with a brigade of 55 chefs, 5 of whom were girls. I trained there for 18 months, working my way up the ranks. It was hard work with long hours but my reward each day was to stand in the walk-in fridge and look at my beautiful pastries before they made their way to The Palm Court.

So many celebrities made their way through the doors of the Ritz, there was always a buzz. Princess Diana and Elton John had afternoon tea a few times. U2 had dinner one evening and they ordered hot chocolate souffles for dessert - imagine the nerves? Rex Harrison lived in the hotel and he ate peaches and cream every evening but the most exciting event was the Queen Mother's 89th birthday celebration. It was a small dinner party for the immediate Royal Family. All sections of the brigade were given a week to prepare and practice, it was so exciting. My friend Louise and I were given an assiette de patisserie to design, so we made six miniature desserts incorporating spun sugar baskets, edible gold leaf and the best chocolate we could find.

Did you continue with pastries on your return to home shores? Yes, after my stint at The Ritz, I returned to Belfast and worked with Paul Rankin in Roscoff then went on to be pastry chef for Roscoff café for 4 years. I loved this time, we had so much fun and I made great friends. We used to call ourselves Roscoffians but after a while I got itchy feet and was desperate to return to London. I secured myself a post with Albert Roux for a spell before moving to Sir Terence Conran's restaurant Sartoria on Saville Row. When I became pregnant, I came home again where we had our first son, Joshua then, a few years later, along came Cameron, our second born. I stayed at home with the boys as much as I could and studied Food Science part-time at Loughry. As fate would have it, a door to the food styling world opened.

Who do you work with? I was introduced to photographer David Pauley of The Studio in Belfast. He taught me how to arrange food in a specific way so the camera could see it. All very exciting but I didn't use any reference or text books so I practiced a lot at home before the shoots so I wouldn't let myself down when I was in the studio and it paid off - we soon built an impressive client list. A few years later I was asked to style food for TV commercials and from there it was a natural progression to the film world. I make food for the sets, in other words the food you see on screen.

What films have you worked on? I've been lucky to work on a quite few films: The Wiper times, Shooting for Socrates, Your Highness, Dracula Untold, High rise and Game of Thrones and I'm working on Frankenstein at the moment. I was the food stylist on Game of Thrones for seasons 1 – 4, which was an incredible experience. I went to Croatia with them last year for a month to shoot three scenes, the main one being Joffrey's wedding feast.

What was your most challenging task on Game of Thrones? The trickiest thing I had to make was the edible Stallions heart for Daenerys to eat in Season 1. Obviously it couldn't be real, so it took a while to work out how I could make it look totally realistic. I had no idea what a phenomenon Game of Thrones would become and am very proud to have been a part of it.

What exciting things do you have in the pipeline for the year ahead? 2015 is set to be very busy already with Frankenstein and the still photography shoots with David Pauley. I'm also working with Loughry to develop a range of baking mixes and have a small business called The Yum Yum Club, which I'm developing. We released our first product, Santa's Cookies at Christmas which was a great success. We source the best quality local ingredients and layer them in glass kilner jars. The idea is that children can simply add an egg and 100g of butter to the mixture and bake their own delicious cookies. We have five other recipes and hope to introduce them this year along with gorgeous tea towels designed by Ulster Weavers. Our website theyumyumclub. com is currently under development and we hope it will be live in the next few months.

karynboothfoodstylist.com thestudio-photography.com

I WAS THE FOOD STYLIST ON GAME OF THRONES FOR SEASONS 1 - 4, WHICH WAS AN INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCE. I WENT TO CROATIA WITH THEM LAST YEAR FOR A MONTH TO SHOOT THREE SCENES. THE MAIN ONE BEING JOFFREY'S WEDDING FEAST

#### Mascarpone & cherry tart

You will need a 30 cm (12 inch) loose bottom flan tin. Oven temperature: 180°C gas mark 4 Serves 12 - 14

Ingredients 340g plain flour 90g caster sugar 175g chilled unsalted butter, cut into cubes I egg and I egg yolk Pinch of salt For the mascarpone cream 250g mascarpone 2 tablespoons icing sugar 5 drops vanilla extract 400mls of whipped cream

To decorate I large punnet of fresh cherries, leave some whole with the stalk for decoration but remove the stalk and stones from the remaining. I pomegranate, cut in half and seeds removed

#### For the pastry base:

Place the flour, sugar, butter and salt into a food processor and pulse until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Mix the egg & egg yolk together and pour into the processor as you continue to pulse, only mix until just combined and no more, then tip onto a clean work surface and knead the pastry to a smooth ball. Wrap in cling film and chill for 30 mins

Roll the pastry into a thin circle (a few inches bigger than the tin). Now transfer it, rolling it over the pin, to the tin. Press it lightly and firmly all over the base and sides of the tin, easing any overlapping pastry back down the sides, as it is important not to stretch this bit too much

Trim the edge, leaving 1/4 inch overhanging the rim of the tin all round. Then prick the base all over with a fork, line with a circle of baking parchment and fill with baking beans. Place the tin in the centre shelf of the oven and bake it for 20-25 minutes, until the pastry is crisp and golden. Remove the parchment and beans and allow to cool

#### For the mascarpone cream:

Whisk mascarpone, icing sugar and vanilla extract and cream until smooth and thick, Fill the tart case then decorate with cherries and pomegranate seeds



#### KING PRAWN AND CRAB SALAD

Serves 4

#### For the salad:

225g prepared white crab meat 250g cooked prawns I avocado
I small bag of baby salad leaves I tablespoon capers, drained and chopped I shallot, finely sliced

#### For the dressing:

I tablespoon fresh

coriander, finely chopped ½ small red chilli, finely sliced I tbsp grated lemon zest I tbsp lemon juice I tbsp olive oil

#### Method

Tip the crab meat and cooked prawns into a salad dish. Peel the avocado, cut in half and remove the stone, then cut the flesh into chunks.

Simply mix the crab meat, prawns and avocado with the remaining ingredients. Whisk the dressing ingredients together and drizzle over the salad before serving.





#### CELEBRATION CHOCOLATE CAKE

Oven temperature: I 60°C/Gas mark 3½, You will need: 23cm (9 inch) round non-stick cake tin (loose bottom), cooling rack, 4 large mixing bowls and an electric mixer or whisk. Serves 12-16

Ingredients For the cake 120g dark couverture chocolate, broken into small pieces 90g unsalted butter, cut into cubes 5 eggs, separated 180g caster sugar 60g plain flour 60g ground almonds

For the chocolate icing 160g softened butter 175g icing sugar 2 tablespoons of milk 4-5 drops of vanilla

270g dark chocolate To decorate I punnet of cherries, raspberries or strawberries I punnet of redcurrants

#### Method for cake

Place the chocolate and butter together in a heatproof bowl and set over a saucepan of barely simmering water until completely melted. Use an electric mixer to whisk the egg yolks with 90g of sugar until very pale and fluffy and then scrape into a mixing bowl

Clean and re use the mixer

to whisk the egg whites with the remaining sugar until thick, glossy and trebled in size. Sift the flour into a bowl and add ground almonds

Now you should have four bowls, (1) melted butter and chocolate (2) egg yolk and sugar (3) dry ingredients and (4) meringue. Fold the butter and chocolate into the egg yolk and sugar mixture, then add the dry ingredients, finally fold in the meringue

Pour the mixture into a cake tin. Bake in a hot oven for roughly I hour. To check if the

cake is baked, insert a metal skewer into its centre and if it comes out clean then it's ready

#### Method for icing

Beat butter, icing sugar, milk and vanilla extract together until light and fluffy. Gently melt the chocolate, then add to the buttercream and continue to beat for 3-4 minutes until smooth. Use a palette knife to spread the icing evenly over the top and sides of the cake. Decorate with either cherries or red berries and redcurrants

# live a little

Whether you're accessorising your new kitchen or looking for some culinary inspiration, check out our latest finds



#### Heaven Scent!

Fired Earth and Wax Lyrical have joined forces to create a rather divine range of candles just perfect for any room in the home. This collection contains an exquisite blend of essential oils, in an inspiring range of colours and scents, Black Tea & Jasmine is a patchouli, eastern spices and geranium Small 1-wick £20/€26, large 2-wick £35/€46 bedeckhome.com





#### Vintage Chic

Given its rather worn and rusted patina, this green enamel bread bin from Raspberry Mash is probably best kept for display purposes only. Nevertheless, we love its aged character and slightly battered appearance. It would look great on a rustic kitchen shelf or by an Aga for the ultimate in shabby chic. £28/€37 raspberrymash.co.uk



#### eating in

Entertain at home in style with the RJR collection of tableware by John Rocha at Debenhams. Price from £4.50/€6 for a tea cup to £22€29 for large salad bowls. debenhams.com



#### Galway's Newest Eatery

Overlooking the renowned promenade in Salthill, The Fisherman is serving up a contemporary selection of seafood, meat and vegetarian dishes, with striking décor and a stunning view across Galway Bay. Owned and operated by Patrick O'Malley and his wife Lisa Creaven, the O'Malley family come from a long family line of Galway fishermen and operate the city's leading chain of fishmongers, also called The Fisherman, All the seafood dishes are prepared fresh each day from produce caught directly from the boats at Rossaveal. The lean cuts of meat, vegetables, breads and wholesome ingredients are also sourced from local suppliers, ensuring a real taste of the West, fisherman.ie



#### **BLOOMING LOVELY**

Self-confessed Orla Kiely addicts, we love these enamelled tin plant pots & coasters decorated with a retro stem print pattern on cream background. Sold individually and supplied boxed, these are available from One Brown Cow. onebrowncow.co.uk





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# rural ELEGANCE



creating relaxed elegance in a period style new build

Interior designer, Kyra Orr of Orr & Gillespie has created a scheme of relaxed elegance in her period style family home in the tranquil, rural surroundings of County Antrim. Designed in a period style, this new build's interior mirrors the layout of a traditional Georgian residence to the front with a spacious open plan layout at the back for everyday family living. Specialising in spatial planning, Kyra has a comprehensive understanding of layout and flow, both aesthetically and ergonomically to create spaces which interact with each other to achieve practical, beautiful and easy to live in spaces.

While there are two other reception rooms at the front of the house, the back of the house has been dedicated to a large multifunctional family room accommodating a bespoke kitchen with casual living and dining areas. A

fabulous sociable space, this area is perfect for entertaining as well as catering for all the needs of a busy family.

The custom designed painted kitchen by Hayburn in Farrow & Ball London Stone creates a rustic ambience with a substantial island in a distressed finished adding charm and lived-in appeal. An antique mirrored glass splashback behind the Aga continues the theme while luxurious fabrics from Mulberry Home, Zoffany, Andrew Martin and Designers Guild achieve a timeless and welcoming feel in a soft, muted colour palette. A contemporary layout with classic furnishings combines the best of both worlds – a functional space with a sophisticated scheme that will only get better with age.



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